# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-94-210* *31 October 1994*

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## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Self-Rule Negotiations Postponed Until 6 Nov

*NC3110100894 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The fifth round of Palestinian-Israeli self-rule negotiations, which were due to be held in Cairo today, have been postponed to 6 November.

Muhammad Subayh, secretary of the Palestine National Council, said that the talks were postponed because they coincided with the opening of Morocco's economic summit, which Israeli and Palestinian officials are attending.

He remarked that U.S. President Bill Clinton's regional tour had a positive impact on the Palestinian-Israeli track and said he expects Israel to accelerate the implementation of the self-rule agreement signed on 4 May 1993.

### Palestinian General on 'Safe Passage' Procedures

*TA3110094694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] General Ziyad al-Atrash, head of the Palestinian security committee, says that Israel and the Palestinians have finalized most of the procedures related to the safe passage between Gaza and Jericho. Al-Atrash expressed the hope that the safe passage will be opened as early as next week.

Israeli security sources told our correspondent that Israel will not permit armed Palestinians to use the safe passage. Only Palestinian dignitaries and those accompanying them will be allowed to bear arms while using the passage.

### Paper Says 'Bold Israeli Decision' Now Needed

*MM2810113994 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Oct 94 p 9*

[Editorial: "Awaiting Comprehensive Peace"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Jordanian-Israeli treaty is another step down a road which is still long because the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace still requires a bold Israeli decision.

With the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli treaty in Wadi 'Arabah, the Middle East process enters a new phase which can be viewed as the one preceding the final phase of comprehensive peace in the region.

It may be natural for every Arab hoping for a just solution to the Middle East crisis to respond to this new step toward peace, but it is also natural to hope that the Jordanian-Israeli peace is seen as one stop on the way to the ultimate peace target, namely the implementation of all the UN resolutions calling for withdrawal from the occupied territories, particulary Jerusalem, the West Bank, the [Gaza] Strip, the Golan, and southern Lebanon.

It goes without saying that comprehensive peace can be guaranteed not by texts [of agreements] but by peoples' conviction that they have regained their usurped rights, especially the rights upheld by more than one UN resolution.

The Wadi 'Arabah peace could drive the peace wagon forward if it is followed by bold Israeli decisions recognizing the Palestinian people's right to a fully sovereign state, the Arab and Islamic peoples' right to holy Jerusalem, Syria's right to the Golan, and Lebanon's right to its occupied south.

Without recognition of these rights, which have been upheld by the United Nations, any peace in the Middle East would remain brittle and susceptible to the first sign of a change in the international balances of power.

It is time Israel realized that the peace of texts is one thing and the peace of peoples is quite another.

Now that all the Arabs have demonstrated a sincere desire to establish a just and comprehensive peace, Yitzhaq Rabin is requested to demonstrate enough courage by declaring to his people that the only victory Israel could score from now on would be a victory against itself or, to be specific, against the complex of a state in control of the Middle East.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab Boycott Office Meeting Delayed Until Apr 95

*JN2810175094 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Zuhayr 'Aqil, the commissioner general of the Arab Boycott of Israel office, said in Damascus today that the meeting which was scheduled in Damascus tomorrow Saturday has been postponed until next April due to the lack of a quorum.

Three meetings have already been postponed for the same reason.

### League Ready To Discuss Lifting Boycott of Israel

*NC3010115894 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Oct 30 (AFP)—The Arab League is prepared to examine any call for lifting the boycott of Israel issued by its member states, the League's spokesman said Sunday [30 October].

"The Arab League is not afraid to discuss lifting the Arab boycott of Israel," Tal'at Hamid told AFP. "We are ready to discuss any request on that score.

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"If one or all of our members call for the boycott to be lifted the League will present their request at an ordinary or extraordinary meeting," he said.

The approval of at least 14 of the pan-Arab organisation's 22 members would be needed for the direct or indirect boycott to be lifted, Hamid said.

The League imposed the boycott in 1951

But on September 30, the six Gulf Arab monarchies ended their boycott of international companies doing business with Israel.

Egypt has not observed the boycott since signing a peace treaty with Israel in 1979—the first Arab country to do so. Jordan followed Egypt's example last Wednesday.

Hamid denied a report in the Arab daily Al-Hayah that the League was planning to sound out its members in writing on whether the boycott should be lifted.

He was speaking as some 2,000 politicians and businessmen gathered for the opening Sunday of a Middle East economic conference in Casablanca, Morocco—the first to bring together so many Arab and Israeli officials.

## Palestinian Affairs

### 'Arafat Chairs Meeting, Discusses 'Urgent' Issues

*JN2910175194 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[Report by 'Adil Za'nun from Gaza]

[FBIS Translated Text] His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO and the National Authority [NA], left the homeland for Casablanca at noon today—following the meeting of the NA government—to attend the Middle East Economic Summit being held in Casablanca. President 'Arafat is expected to meet there with Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and his Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. Both sides will discuss many issues, particularly expediting the implementation of the peace agreement.

This morning, President 'Arafat chaired the weekly cabinet meeting in Gaza. The ministers discussed many urgent issues, particularly the continued Israeli closure of the Palestinian territory, the issue of detainees, and issues related to the summit meeting tomorrow between President 'Arafat and Rabin. The ministers also discussed the Jordanian-Israeli treaty and the results of the meeting between Presidents 'Arafat and Clinton.

In a statement following the meeting, Culture and Information Minister Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said that the NA Council affirmed that the Israeli closure of the Palestinian territory fully contradicts the letter and spirit of the Palestinian-Israeli accord and conflicts with the political process and its objectives. 'Abd- Rabbuh added that this issue will top tomorrow's summit agenda.

Regarding the Jordanian-Israeli treaty, Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said: We are concerned about relations with Jordan and welcome any progress in the regional peace process. However, the NA has reservations about some of the matters in the treaty, particularly the ones related to Jerusalem, water, and refugees. He said that the NA will follow up on these reservations with all involved parties, particularly Jordanian officials, so that progress will not (?affect) any party. He added that the NA has always endeavored to develop Jordanian-Palestinian relations in all fields of common interest. He stressed that the contacts with Jordanian officials have not stopped.

Minister 'Abd-Rabbuh called for implementing what has been agreed upon regarding the safe crossings and corridors between Gaza and Jericho, as well as regarding the transfer of powers and civil responsibilities to the Palestinians. He added that he does not expect any procrastination in these issues, noting that the 'Arafat-Rabin meeting tomorrow will highlight this.

'Abd-Rabbuh affirmed that slight progress has been achieved on the issue of elections. He affirmed the need for reaching understanding and agreement on the suspended issues to enable the Palestinians to hold elections before the end of the year.

'Abd-Rabbuh also touched on reports published in the Israeli press on Rabin's desire to review some parts of the Oslo accord regarding the redeployment of the Israeli Army and elections. 'Abd-Rabbuh said: This is very significant as it reflects the other party's leaning toward playing games with what has been achieved. He said there is no half peace or so-called quarter peace, adding that the region will be affected either negatively or positively by Israel's stand vis-a-vis the peace process.

### 'Arafat Criticizes Israeli-Jordanian Treaty

*AU2810142694 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 28 Oct 94 p 2*

[Interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Richard Meng in Gaza; date not given: "There Is No Peace Without the Palestinians"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Meng] Mr. 'Arafat, what precisely bothers you about the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty?

['Arafat] There are some points that, in our view, do not observe the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy agreement. This applies, above all, to East Jerusalem, which was occupied in 1967, as is known. We excluded this issue in the agreement so that not only the interests of one party are taken into consideration—with the goal of settling the problem of East Jerusalem within three years. Thus, one cannot discuss the issue with another country before that. Authority on this issue is a Palestinian matter.

The other issue is the water. It belongs to us. The Jordan River is a Palestinian river—from its beginning to its

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end. One cannot discuss this issue, which is so important, with Jordan without talking to us. And regarding the economic projects that are planned at the Dead Sea: In our agreement with Israel, we agreed on joint projects, at least projects that are not implemented without Palestinian participation. There must not be an economic agreement between Israel and Jordan that refers to Palestinian soil. We also received the right to decide ourselves on the opening of banks on our territory, but they even discussed that. Lastly: The question of refugees is not just a humanitarian issue, but also a political one. However, we welcome this agreement. We were the ones who led to it. We want the Syrians and the Lebanese to also be able to conclude an agreement with Israel.

[Meng] Now the treaty has been concluded despite your criticism of the contents. Does this threaten the Palestinians with new isolation, also within the Arab camp?

['Arafat] This is not just a Palestinian-Jordanian conflict. It is also a Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Experience has shown that one cannot isolate the Palestinians. There is no peace in this region and no security without the Palestinians. Everyone knows that. The peace treaty between Israel and Jordan would not have been possible without the prior agreement concluded by the Palestinians.

[Meng] Would you have envisaged a different clause on Jerusalem in the Israeli-Jordanian treaty or none at all?

['Arafat] I am talking about the principle. There must be no talks about Jerusalem without Palestinian participation. This is our capital city.

[Meng] If a peace treaty is concluded between Syria and Israel, will you not have to fear that your position will be set aside again?

['Arafat] We are not afraid, we are not against the Israeli-Jordanian treaty, either. We simply do not accept the agreement in a few points that affect us. The Syrians are clearly on our side regarding these controversial issues. They have said for a long time that they will not interfere in Palestinian affairs—and the same goes for the Lebanese.

[Meng] Israel now demands that you act more harshly against the Hamas activists in the autonomous territories so as to prevent further bomb attacks.

['Arafat] There is one thing that I do not understand. The problem emerged among the Israelis and not in the areas that we rule. The Hamas leadership is in Amman. The orders for Hamas come from Damascus and Tehran. Holding us responsible for that is unfair. I am not the person who founded Hamas. In 1988, Yitzhaq Rabin supported Hamas so that it can work here—in order to set it up as an alternative to the PLO. However, this did not happen. Hamas developed differently than intended.

[Meng] Do you see any measures that you can take against Hamas?

['Arafat] I have taken my measures, I have arrested Hamas activists. Rabin knows that quite well. I cannot bear responsibility for areas if I am not there.

[Meng] Will Hamas be involved in the planned elections in the autonomous areas, which Israel rejects?

['Arafat] I will call on all Palestinians to participate in the elections, and I cannot prevent anyone doing so. Otherwise, it would not be a democratic election. Rabin does not ban his radicals from going to the ballots, either. In democracies, only those who have been legally sentenced can be excluded from the ballots.

[Meng] When will these elections be held?

['Arafat] We want to conclude the preparations as quickly as possible. We have sent teams to Europe, who are to collect experience there—they have been invited by the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation. A total of 3,000 Palestinians are being prepared by the Europeans to organize these elections. We want to hold the elections, but, so far, the Israelis have prevented us from doing so. They are delaying the necessary preparations.

[Meng] What are your expectations regarding the Middle East economic conference that will take place in Casablanca on the weekend [29-30 October], and regarding Germany in particular?

['Arafat] There are regional projects that could be started quickly. I consider international cooperation on these economic issues important. Germany is called upon to play a main role in that—and the Germans are well able to do that.

## 'Source' on Likely 'Arafat-Prince Hasan Meeting

*JN3010122994 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Oct 94 p 1*

[Report by Tawfiq 'Abid]

[FBIS Translated Text] Palestinian diplomatic sources in Amman have disclosed that there is Egyptian and Moroccan mediation under way to relax relations between Jordan and the Palestinian National Authority and stop the escalation of differences between them especially over Jerusalem.

The diplomatic sources told AL-DUSTUR that His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, who is currently in the Moroccan capital to take part in the Casablanca economic conference, may confer with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat today or tomorrow to discuss differences and restore normal bilateral relations.

The sources added that the meeting between His Highness Prince Hasan and 'Arafat will be the prelude to a Jordanian-Palestinian summit meeting that will be held very shortly in Amman.

The sources played down the Jordanian-Palestinian differences, noting that bilateral relations between the two sides have passed through far more serious and bitter

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times in the past. They said that the intertwined interests, good intentions, and common future were stronger than differences that occasionally surface between the two sides.

### Palestinian Envoy: Treaty is Jordanian Right

*JN3010121794 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Oct 94 pp 32, 26*

[FBIS Translated Text] 'Umar al-Khatib, Palestinian charge d'affaires in Jordan, has said that the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty is a Jordanian concern and a Jordanian right.

Answering a question by AL-DUSTUR, he said that having read the text of the treaty signed in Wadi al-'Arbah last Wednesday [26 October], it is clear that the treaty has restored Jordan's land, water, and border rights. He said: We are not against the treaty. On the contrary, we consider it an important step on the road toward a comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem.

He added: We support any effort aimed at restoring the usurped rights to their owners, and we do not have any doubt that the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty has restored Jordanian rights usurped for many years.

Al-Khatib expected that there would be substantial progress on the Syrian-Israeli track within the next two months. He said that information available to him suggests that Syria and Israel are about to reach agreement on controversial issues that are still subject to negotiations.

### Students Burn Portraits of King Husayn in Protest

*NC3010135794 Paris AFP in English 1347 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, Oct 30 (AFP)—Palestinian students burned portraits of Jordan's King Husayn in a demonstration at al-Azhar University here Sunday [30 October] against the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty.

Student leaders read out a statement condemning the treaty signed last Wednesday, in particular a clause which recognises Jordan's "historic role" in administering Moslem shrines in Jerusalem.

They accused Jordan of having "betrayed the Arab cause by opening the way to an Israeli economic invasion."

The protest in autonomous Gaza City, in which about 500 students took part, was organised by the students' council linked to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah faction.

On Saturday, 2,000 Palestinians demonstrated against the peace treaty in the Israeli-occupied West Bank town of Janin.

The Palestinians are angry at references in the treaty to Jordan's rights in Jerusalem, the Israeli-annexed eastern sector of which they claim as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

### Al-Tibi Expresses 'Qualms' About Clinton Visit

*TA2810130294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1105 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinian Authority has some qualms about President Clinton's visit to Israel. This is what Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, has to say about the issue:

[Begin al-Tibi recording] I would have expected President Clinton's speech in the Knesset to mention the Palestinian problem, even if only briefly, because this is the heart of the Israeli-Arab conflict. All the more so when only five minutes away from the Knesset there were many Palestinians who also viewed this important event, the speech of the U.S. President to the Israeli parliament. It is a shame, but I do not think it was done out of bad intentions or out of a desire to ignore the most important track, the Israeli-Palestinian track. I am not concerned about this omission, rather about a different omission, because Prime Minister Rabin also addressed the Knesset, and once again he failed to address the Palestinian issue, the Israeli-Palestinian track. I think that the prime minister can ignore Yasir 'Arafat, but he cannot make him disappear. [end recording]

### On Rabin's Remarks, Clinton Speech

*JN2810204194 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[Interview with Ahmad al-Tibi, adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on Israeli affairs, by Fathi Barqawi on 28 October; place not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Barqawi] Today we read statements by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in the newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT in which he said that the Oslo agreement must be amended, especially on security matters, and during the implementation. How do you explain these statements? Does this show an Israeli retreat?

[Al-Tibi] In fact these statements do call for concern. They are to be added to other signs from the Israeli government, and from Prime Minister Rabin in particular, and from the Israeli Army command. These remarks raise many question marks on Rabin's commitment and the Israeli Government's commitment to implementing the Oslo agreement, especially the second part of the phased agreement, which stipulates the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the remainder of the West Bank. Mr. Rabin said today that there is a need to amend this agreement from the security viewpoint. This means he is not satisfied with this agreement and wants, through negotiations, to amend it to his advantage. This

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is not right in any international agreement. It encroaches on the peace process and the Israeli-Palestinian agreement.

[Barqawi] This means that the stalemate in the Cairo talks on elections is not a chance event but an intentional delay?

[Al-Tibi] I doubt the sincerity of the Israeli side in calling for speeding up the election process in the Palestinian territories. They have not hidden their desire to avoid holding the elections because the Cairo agreement stipulates the need for the Israeli forces to pull out on the eve of elections in the territories. Therefore, they do not want these elections so that they will not be compelled to withdraw their forces from the West Bank. Therefore, this foot dragging in Cairo negotiation on elections has been expected from the Israeli side. No doubt, this issue will be raised by President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] the day after tomorrow in his meeting with Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres in Casablanca.

[Barqawi] Had the Palestinians caused this stalemate and had President 'Arafat made such remarks...

[Al-Tibi, interrupting] I will not try to imagine what would have happened then.

[Barqawi] I wanted to ask what the U.S. reaction would be. President Clinton has been amongst us in this region today.

[Al-Tibi] You are aware and the listeners are aware what the reaction would have been. They always accuse us of violating the agreement on this and that point. This is not accurate at all. When the Israeli side and the Israeli prime minister openly announce their intention not to implement the agreement—Israeli chief of staff Ehud Baraq three weeks ago asked for the Israeli forces not to be withdrawn from the West Bank—no reactions are heard from the U.S. Administration and the Israeli media or from those who would have been fierce in their attack on us.

Of course this is a double standard, which we have been accustomed to. However, we expect the U.S. President and Administration to adopt a firm stand on the issue of elections because they are the democratic character of any society. No doubt the U.S. Administration and people, as well as President Clinton support the application of democracy in all world societies, as they themselves claim. The Palestinian people are in great need of these elections.

[Barqawi] You have talked about the double standard that yesterday appeared for the one-thousandth time in Clinton's Knesset speech. He did not mention the Israeli-Palestinian track, which is the most important Arab tracks.

[Al-Tibi] Clinton made an important speech in the Knesset and I had hoped that he would mention the Palestinian problem and the Israeli-Palestinian track, as you have said. He mentioned the suffering and victims of the Israeli people—and he has the right to do this—but I had hoped he would not forget the suffering of the Palestinian people under occupation. I had hoped that he would mention the tight closure, and the accumulated pain of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza as a result of this closure.

The pain is not confined to one side. On the contrary, it has been accumulating on the Palestinian side. The suffering is unbearable now after this continuous closure. However, I do not want to pause too long over the failure to mention the Palestinian cause. I want to say that Rabin also avoided mentioning the Palestinian-Israeli track in his Knesset speech. If some imagine that they can ignore Yasir 'Arafat, we tell them that it is okay but you will not be able to hide Yasir 'Arafat. They can ignore the Palestinian people but they cannot hide the Palestinian people because the Palestinian cause is the crux and heart of this struggle. Ignoring this heart will lead to the death of the peace process.

[Barqawi] We will continue on this path. We have proved that we have enough stamina. Thank you, Dr. Ahmad al-Tibi.

[Al-Tibi] Thank you.

### Al-Husayni: Clinton Cancellation 'Great Achievement'

*TA2810130594 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Oct 94 p 7*

[Report by Hanan Schlein, Yehuda Golan, and Yosi Levi]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinians yesterday expressed great satisfaction with the fact that President Clinton decided to cancel his joint visit with Major Ehud Olmert in East Jerusalem.

East Jerusalem figures have noted that the cancellation is a great achievement for them. "The fact the visit was canceled proves once more that the Americans regard East Jerusalem as an occupied area," said Faysal al-Husayni, who is in charge of the Jerusalem portfolio in the Palestinian Authority.

Prior to Clinton's cancellation decision, the Palestinians threatened to block with their bodies the U.S. President and Ehud Olmert if they attempted to enter the Temple Mount area. The Palestinians did not want to see Clinton arrive with Olmert, hoping he would enter the Temple Mount accompanied only by waqf officials and Palestinian leaders. Palestinian leaders said yesterday that "Ehud Olmert's attempt to prove he is also the mayor of East Jerusalem has failed."

The cancellation decision was announced by the U.S. consul in East Jerusalem. He claimed the visit was canceled due to a delay in Clinton's timetable on his way from Syria to Israel. According to the original plan, the

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tour was scheduled to start at 2200 [2000 GMT], but with the delay it was feared that the tour would spill over into the late evening.

Foreign Ministry and Prime Minister's Office officials yesterday criticized Olmert, saying he could have withdrawn his decision to join Clinton thus enabling the U.S. President to visit the Old City.

Reacting to the cancellation, however, Olmert said: "I believe Clinton should have a feeling of missed opportunity. I certainly do not have such a feeling." Olmert seemed to be somewhat amused by the affair, which almost became a diplomatic incident, adding: "At least we avoided a misunderstanding with the waqf officials. Imagine us arriving at the Temple Mount; the two waqf heads would have fought over the right to host Clinton."

The police were also satisfied with the cancellation of Clinton's visit to East Jerusalem. Police Commissioner Asaf Hefetz yesterday evening said the cancellation reduced the scope of security problems the police faced.

Hefetz noted that, immediately upon the announcement of the cancellation, the police changed its deployment and a large number of policemen were released from the special guard duty and returned to their districts. Hefetz says Clinton's security operation was one of the largest ever carried out by Israel Police, constituting a "dress rehearsal for King Husayn's expected visit to the city."

## Official Discusses Closure of Territories

*NC3110100794 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[Telephone interview with Palestinian Authority member Jamil al-Tarifi, in Amman, by Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz, in Cairo on 31 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] ['Abd-al-'Aziz] Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin announced yesterday that as of tomorrow, Tuesday, Israel will begin to ease the blockade of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Dr. al-Tarifi, do you regard Rabin's announcement as a positive gesture by the Israeli Government?

[Al-Tarifi] We consider it a return to the normal situation. Whenever there is an operation or an event that the Israelis view as a disruption of security or some such matter, Israel immediately imposes what we call mass punishment on all the Palestinians in the territories, particularly in the West Bank. It has also closed the border with Gaza. I see this closure as a policy of mass punishment. Tens of thousands of workers have been banned from going to their jobs in Israel. This in itself is a breach of the peace process and the agreements. As long as we are speaking of an integrated peace process and ways of developing it, this closure is out of step with the whole process regardless of how painful the anticivilian operations in question are to the Israelis and even to us. Therefore, we regard the planned reduction of the blockade as a restoration of the normal situation. Israel must stop using security pretexts.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] The Israeli prime minister has asked for a revision of the Oslo Agreement.

[Al-Tarifi] The Oslo Agreement no doubt contains points that might be unsatisfactory to the Palestinians themselves. It might also contain points that some Israelis find unsatisfactory. As I stated during a previous interview with the Voice of the Arabs, there is disagreement among the Israeli generals themselves over the redeployment of forces in the West Bank. When an Israeli soldier was kidnapped, the generals tried to lay the full blame on the PA [Palestinian Authority]. Their aim was to tell the Israeli political leadership that the redeployment of Israeli forces in the West Bank must be reconsidered. In my opinion, when he ordered the recent closure, Rabin fully submitted, as he did after the kidnapping of the soldier, to the views of some of these hardline generals, notably Chief of Staff Ehud Baraq. Rabin does not have the right to demand a revision of the Oslo Agreement. This is merely the prelude to adopting a hardline attitude over the redeployment of Israeli forces in the West Bank negotiations, which are due to be held shortly. During the meeting of the Palestinian-Israeli Higher Liaison Committee in Cairo last Sunday, the Palestinian delegation urged simultaneous negotiations over the elections, the redeployment of the Israeli forces in the West Bank, the transfer of powers, and the revision of laws. The Israelis rejected this proposal, urging that the negotiations over the elections be completed first. Hence I believe that Rabin's recent remarks are a prelude to a hardline Israeli attitude over the redeployment of forces in the West Bank.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Mr. al-Tarifi, you attended the Liaison Committee meeting in Cairo. Judging by what you saw during that meeting, as well as President Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and your recent tour of Cairo, Paris, and Amman, what can you say about the status of the talks on the Palestinian-Israeli track?

[Al-Tarifi] As I have told you, according to the Oslo Agreement, we must now begin negotiating the transfer of all authority in the West Bank. We were supposed to have completed the early transfer of authority in the West Bank. Actually we have only taken over educational authority. Four or five other types of authority have not yet been turned over to us. Israel is using the donor countries' meeting due to be held on 2 November as a pretext. We insist that the provisions of the Oslo Agreement be implemented in full. Shim'on Peres confirmed this during our last meeting in Cairo, noting that the Israeli Government is determined to fulfill its commitments. Even Rabin confirmed this during a meeting with President 'Arafat at the Erez checkpoint last month. He said the Israeli Government is fully committed to the

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Oslo Agreement. Our chief aim now is to begin negotiations over the West Bank in order to begin the interim period specified in the Agreement and later negotiate over the final settlement.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] We wish to take the opportunity of your visit to Amman to ask this question. A Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty was signed last week. What is the Palestinian viewpoint on this treaty?

[Al-Tarifi] In principle, we support this treaty. We back the progress on the Jordanian-Israeli track and hope for similar progress on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. This will enable us, the Palestinians, to demonstrate our earnest wish not to have a separate solution with Israel. Nonetheless we do have a certain viewpoint on this treaty, notably with regard to the provisions about Jerusalem and the holy shrines. However, we hope to set this dispute aside and begin a dialogue with our Jordanian brothers. The Palestinians and Jordanians are indeed one nation and have mutual interests we would like to develop. We wish to bridge the gap between us over the disputed issue. We do not wish to widen the breach between the Palestinian and Jordanian positions. We continue, however, to emphasize our reservations over this issue but do not want to heighten the disagreement with our Jordanian brothers.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Mr. al-Tarifi, thank you very much. You are always welcome to the Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-Tarifi] Thank you.

### Sha'th on Casablanca Summit, Aid, Israeli 'Siege'

*JN2810200694 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation, said at a news conference in Gaza today that a Palestinian delegation was heading for the Casablanca conference armed with the spirit of peace, but that the continuation of the siege Israel is imposing on the Palestinian territories will foil the implications of the Casablanca conference.

Dr. Sha'th also said that the financial aid the PLO has received since the peace process began amount to less than 10 percent of what the PLO was promised before the peace process.

Dr. Sha'th said: What we get is insufficient. We used to get $1 billion per year from the Gulf states until the Gulf war erupted in 1990. He added: The problems and difficulties facing the National Authority in the Gaza Strip and Jericho are due to the scarcity of financial aid, estimated to be just $100 million out of the $720 million promised for this year.

Sha'th denied that His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat pledged to U.S. President Bill Clinto during the Cairo summit to fight Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, explaining that the relationship of the National Authority with the movement is political and brotherly. He added that the problem does not lie with fundamentalism or Hamas but with the economic and political conditions imposed on us by the shortage of aid and the Israeli siege.

### Quray' Says Development Plan To Be Implemented

*JN2910072794 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Ahmad Quray', minister of economy in the Palestinian National Authority [PNA], has stated that the PNA will start the implementation of a $13-billion Palestinian development plan.

In an interview with the Palestinian AL-AQSA paper today, Quray' said that the development plan covers the formulation of new bases and principles, particularly following the confusion resulting from the Israeli occupation policy. Quray' said that the PNA will support the private sector, and said that the public sector will work to maintain and protect the infrastructure, adopt regulations and laws, and control the economy to prevent any collapse or inflation.

### PLO Representative Urges West To Release Funds

*AU2810112694 Hamburg DIE WOCHE in German 28 Oct 94 p 25*

[Interview with Layla Shahid, "general delegate of Palestine" to France, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given: "'Race Against Time'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [DIE WOCHE] The Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] Islamists are attacking peace with bombs, and many Palestinians who had wanted peace a moment ago are cheering. Why?

[Shahid] We are in the middle of a dangerous race against time. The problem is that the peace process has not fulfilled its promises so far. We were to elect a Palestinian parliament in July—and Israel keeps postponing the deadline. There are still 6,000 Palestinians detained in Israeli prisons, the troops have not pulled out, 'Arafat cannot move freely, etc.. The list of unfulfilled promises is very long. That is a dangerous game, because it puts the Palestinian leadership in an impossible situation. The peace accord was pushed through in the National Council against strong opposition in 1993. We were only able to win a majority for the gradual solution because there was a firm schedule, and we promised to improve the lives of our people step by step. Now we are about to lose that majority.

[DIE WOCHE] Are you afraid that support for Hamas might grow?

[Shahid] If elections had been held in July, Hamas would not have won much more than 25 percent. Most Palestinians want peace. But if that peace does not change their disastrous living conditions, many will defect. So

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far, life in Gaza and the West Bank has not got any better, and in Jerusalem life is even more difficult than it was before the peace agreement. And Israel's decision to lock out 50,000 Palestinian workers is hitting our vital nerve. A social explosion is imminent.

[DIE WOCHE] Will you take any action against Hamas?

[Shahid] We are looking for the perpetrators. But we are being treated unfairly. Israel says we are to blame for the attacks. But in fact, the abduction of an Israeli Army officer and the attack on the bus happened in areas that are under Israeli control. Rabin wants us to do what Israel has never managed to do: destroy Hamas. But you cannot beat the Islamists by repressing them; that has become clear in Algeria and Egypt.

[DIE WOCHE] What is the way to handle them?

[Shahid] Islamic fundamentalist terrorism thrives in social crises; throughout the Arab world it is a result of the states' inability to guarantee their citizens the basic rights to work, education, health care, in short: a life of dignity. In our case, the problem is aggravated by the fact that we do not even have our own state. The only antidote against terrorism is the rapid establishment of economic and social structures. If people have a job or a future to lose, they will not march with the fundamentalists. I wish the West would become aware of that urgency and release the funds quickly. We have to integrate the Islamists into the political process. Large sections of Hamas have declared their willingness to follow a political course. We should hold elections soon to include them in political life.

[DIE WOCHE] The PLO has fiercely criticized the peace accord with Jordan...

[Shahid, interrupting] ...because Rabin is playing off the accord against the agreement with us. What makes Israel give Jordan sovereignty over East Jerusalem, in clear violation of the Oslo Agreements? Rabin is playing with fire. He is weakening the only partner he has in Palestine. We want coexistence. Peace with Egypt, Syria, or Jordan is good. But it is nothing compared with the enormous symbol that the our project could be for the entire Arab world. If we fail, radical Islam is the only alternative.

## Hamas Leaflet Says Dialogue Sought With PA

*TA3010091694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Report by Yoni Ben-Menahem]

[FBIS Translated Text] Last week the security forces detained 150 Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] activists throughout the West Bank. Most are suspected of affiliation with the military arm of Hamas or involvement in terrorist attacks, and some had been in the group deported to Marj al-Zuhur in Lebanon. About half of the detainees have been moved to the Qezi'ot prison in the Negev, where they will remain in administrative detention for six months. The others are being interrogated by security personnel.

Defense elements had urged the political echelons to take action against Hamas institutions in the West Bank and to stem the inflow of funds from various sources abroad that have been financing the terrorist activities against Israelis. Yet the projected steps against the Hamas institutions have apparently met with legal difficulties, and their closure has proved impossible at this point.

As for Hamas operations in the Gaza Strip, it is now evident that on 'Arafat's orders, most of the 300 Hamas activists detained in the wake of the late Nahshon Wachsman's kidnapping have been released. Defense elements confirm that the series of arrests was a show put up to please Israeli public opinion.

For its part, Hamas has been trying to reduce the friction with the Palestinian Authority [PA] in the Gaza Strip. There have been no recent Hamas leaflets with sharp attacks on the PA, and all the anti-Israel leaflets originated in Damascus and Beirut. Furthermore, Hamas did not demonstrate in Gaza streets against the Oslo agreements during President Clinton's visit to the region. To avoid embarrassing Yasir 'Arafat, the Hamas leaflet claiming responsibility for the Tel Aviv attack was issued in Judaea and Samaria, over which the PA has no jurisdiction.

Last night, Hamas disseminated a leaflet calling on the PA to resume the dialogue between the two sides. The dialogue will be resumed, but the terrorist attacks perpetrated inside Israel are not likely to stop.

## Hamas Terms Jordanian-Israeli Treaty 'Crime'

*NC3010214394 Paris AFP in English 2131 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nicosia, Oct 30 (AFP)—The peace treaty signed by Jordan and Israel on Wednesday [26 October] is a "crime" against the Palestinians, the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas said in a statement received here Sunday.

"After reading the contents of the treaty, we realised the importance of the crime committed by King Huseyn (of Jordan) against our Palestinian people, and the horror of the concessions he has made to Israel," the group said.

It criticized mainly the part relating to security in the treaty, which provides for coordination against terrorism, and saw in it their intention "to strike (..) at Hamas in Jordan and the occupied territories."

The statement warned Yasir 'Arafat's self-rule Authority from "playing a role" in the fight against Hamas, and said this would lead to "what Israel dreams of: internal Palestinian strife, a conflict that would spare no one."

The group also blamed Jordan for not having explicitly mentioned in the treaty that it does not recognise Israel's sovereignty on the Arab part of Jerusalem that was captured in 1967.

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Hamas along with other hardline Palestinian groups rejects the limited self-rule launched in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in May.

In an open letter to U.S. President Bill Clinton on Wednesday [26 October], while he attended the signing of the Jordan-Israel treaty in the desert between the two countries, Hamas warned that it would strike at Israeli interests "worldwide."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has vowed to crush Hamas following three attacks this month, including last week's Tel Aviv bus bombing, which left 23 people dead and dozens of others wounded.

### Hamas Commander Argues Case for Continued Jihad

*MM3110110594 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Oct 94 p6*

[Report by Sami Dhubian: "A Hamas Military Commander Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Amidst the Mounting Settlement Drive, We Are Heading for War"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] London—"With the success of the peace process on all the Arab-Israeli tracks, the Middle East will revert to the pre-1967 situation. In other words, Palestine will remain occupied. That is what triggered the Palestinian resistance and what blew up some Arab regimes. As Palestine will remain occupied, we will remain a resistance movement because we do not accept to have Palestine sacrificed as the price for the return of the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan, and southern Lebanon. That is our view, and many Arabs and Muslims agree with it. How can peace prevail when the cause of its destruction as far back as the thirties and the late forties is still there? We say and stress to everyone that we are heading for war while everyone is heading for settlement, not to say peace."

That is what one of the military commanders of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas said about the movement now after the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli treaty and U.S. President Bill Clinton's tour of the region to promote the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. He emphasized: "We ask everyone to realize that we are heading for war and jihad, and we urge Israel to comprehend the significance of the implementation of such a big operation in the heart of Tel Aviv."

He added: The basis on which we proceed in all this is the fact that Palestine is still occupied and will remain so despite the settlement and the peace process; the fact that we are inside Palestine not outside it, as was the case when the Palestinian resistance started in the sixties and continued abroad until the intifadah filled the gap left by the absence of the resistance officials, some of whom were preparing for a settlement; and the fact that we are a part of a major Islamic tide and of an Arab environment on which we depend and which we cannot do without. Although we will find ourselves engaged in jihad inside Palestine without touching its surroundings, what happens in the future will depend on the future. As to whether the liberation will pass through Gaza and the West Bank, well, Gaza and the West Bank are like every state adjacent to Palestine. The resistance, including Fatah and others, has made it permissible for the resistance to pass through every capital and every place. [passage omitted]

He affirmed: We are confident that everyone will understand the nature of the task Hamas has taken upon itself now and in the future, even with the emergence of the Palestinian Authority or the Palestinian state in Gaza and the West Bank. That is because there is still Palestine and perhaps Jerusalem. Hamas will not abandon them even if there have been those who decided to give them up in return for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

That, the Palestinian commander said, explains the significance of the two recent Hamas operations deep in Palestine, especially the latest one in the heart of Tel Aviv.

The Palestinian commander pointed out that some people cast doubt on Hamas, claiming that its activities serve Israeli interests and, in particular, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who takes advantage of the escalation to press more for a settlement. [passage omitted]

He added that the attempts to cast doubt on Hamas escalate with the escalation of its resistance to the settlement which, we emphasize, will be at the expense of Palestine at least. He continued: Similar doubts were cast on Fatah when it started in the sixties, when it was claimed that its declaration of armed struggle was meant to abort the organized Palestinian political work and to plunge the Arabs into wars with Israel, and that it appeared in mysterious circumstances with nobody knowing anything about it.

He further said: This, however, is not a defense. It is just to stress that Palestine is still occupied and usurped, and that is the strongest justification for the continuation of Hamas and its jihad, and perhaps for the emergence of others. [passage omitted]

That is what the prominent Palestinian commander from Hamas said in a telephone conversation with him from London.

The truth is that the kidnapping of the Israeli soldier and the massive explosion in the heart of Tel Aviv, Israel's capital, focused the Arab, Islamic, and world spotlights on Hamas. [passage omitted]

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## Algeria

### President Zeroual Promotes Senior Army Officers

*LD3010193094 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] This morning at the headquarters of the Ministry of Defense, Mr. Liamine Zeroual, head of state and minister of defense, presided over a promotion ceremony during which Major General Mohamed Lamari was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general and Brigadier Generals Rabah Boughaba, Mohamed Boukhouche, and Belguacem Guedri to the rank of major general.

### Chief of Staff Praises Role of Armed Forces

*LD2910235394 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The statement by Head of State Liamine Zeroual was followed by a statement by Maj Gen Mohamed Lamari, chief of the general staff of the Algerian People's Armed Forces, to the Armed Forces, in which he praised their effective role in safeguarding the unity of the homeland.

The statement says: The National People's Army has been and will remain a wall against the maneuvers of the adventurers and against attempts which seek to harm the freedom of the people and national unity. The National People's Army as in the past will firmly stand against all attempts to deviate from the principles of November 1954. This is within complete respect for constitutional legitimacy.

The National People's Army know how to stand up to the forces of darkness and reactionaries who have betrayed the nation and Islam.

Maj. Gen. Mohamed Lamari added: This struggle, in which we are committed to respect the constitution and the aspiration of the people, will be engaged by us to the end, regardless of the price or the sacrifices. The difficulties and the various obstacles which have been created by the forces of darkness and their allies will never defeat the will and determination of the National People's Army in discharging its noble task.

### FIS Leaders Madani, Belhadj Demand 'Total Freedom'

*LD2810192994 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In Algeria, the two FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] leaders Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj have issued their first statement since they were released from prison and put under house arrest on 13 September last. In a handwritten statement, they demanded today their total freedom in order, quote, to deploy their efforts for a genuine and legal solution that will extricate the country from the crisis. It seems that the two Islamic leaders are saying that they could call for a truce in exchange for their freedom. [passage omitted]

### FIS Armed Wing Losing Ground to GIA

*LD2810171694 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] leaders, whether clandestine or exiled, are divided and the armed wing of the movement, the AIS [Islamic Salvation Army] has little existence in the field where the extremists of the GIA [Armed Islamic Group] are the masters. These are the conclusions of a report of which several excerpts have been published by Algerian newspapers. The report was not written by the authorities but by two FIS members released last February. Adala Benraad:

[Benraad] First remember that the authors of this report, Ali Djeddi and Abdelakader Boukhamkham, members of the FIS leadership, were released last February as part of the appeasement measures taken by the regime to open dialogue with the Islamists. After their release, they were charged with examining the state of the Islamic movement at both political and military levels.

The conclusion is that the Islamist militants are cut off from their leaders and the armed wing of the FIS is losing ground in the face of the most radical group, the GIA. Another conclusion: The grassroot members are divided, a fact that sometimes leads to settling scores between armed groups but above all to an uncontrolled violence. If the two FIS leaders are to be believed, the armed groups are reported to have carried out murders and aggression against the population, acts considered as being against religious legitimacy.

These statements are an attempt to differentiate themselves from the extremist armed groups and show the extent of divisions among the armed Islamic movements. This also shows that the divisions among FIS leaders and the little influence they have on armed groups, particularly the GIA, put further limitations on the chances of dialogue in Algeria today.

### Nine 'Terrorists' Reported Killed in 48 Hours

*LD3010191894 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Security services have announced the elimination during the last two days of nine terrorists in various parts of the country. A security services statement said that operations carried by security forces in Algiers, Guelma, and Mostaganem have enabled them to recover a number of arms and telecommunication equipment.

### Schools Burned; 22 'Terrorists' Killed

*LD2910205594 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The security services today announced that three primary schools in the municipality of Oued Ma IN the province of Batna were

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completely destroyed by a criminal arson carried out by a terrorist group on 25 October.

In other statement, the security services announced that a youth center and a National Liberation Front office were also the subject of an arson attack at Oued Fodda in the province of Chlef.

The security services also announced that the security forces have killed 22 terrorists in Boumerdes, Blida, M'sila, Algiers, Tipaza, Relizine and Jijel and recovered a number of weapons.

### Government Agrees to 20% Wage Hike

*LD2910095494 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The government's meeting with the Central Trade Union, private, and public sector employers ended late last night with an agreement between the three parties to raise wages by 20 percent in two stages.

The first stage will be by 10 percent in December 1994 and the remaining 10 percent will be given in September 1995.

The government had proposed a seven percent wage increase that was rejected by the General Union for Algerian Workers [UGTA]. The UGTA had demanded setting the minimum wage at 8,500 dinars.

The three parties also agreed to meet again in the coming weeks. As is known, yesterday's meeting was a marathon session that focused on wages and restructuring public sector institutions.

Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi, who opened yesterday's tripartite meeting, stressed the necessity of widening and deepening the scope of consultation between the government and economic and social operators to reach political stability and revive the national economy as soon as possible during the country's interim period.

The prime minister clarified that during these difficult times Algeria had to depend more on its live forces to reach the minimum level of social conciliation, enabling one to implement solutions that were more in harmony with the principal problems affecting national life.

### Minister on Estimated Economic Growth, Inflation

*LD2810124694 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] In an interview with the daily 'AL- HAYAT' which has been published today, Finance Minister Ahmed Benbitour said that the Algerian Government hopes to have an increase in growth by six percent next year, and that it intends to reduce inflation to an internationally acceptable percentage - i.e., three percent, instead of the current percentage estimated at 20 percent. Here is a report by Fodil Saaeddine on the interview of Mr. Benbitour:

[Saaeddine] The realization of these percentages relating to the increase in growth and reduction of inflation, Ahmed Benbitour said, is basically linked to the extent of the implementation of the Government program, especially the current economic reforms. He said that the Algerian Government tasks at this stage depends on making avialable social concord and political dialogue, on the one hand, and the development of the competitive capability of the national economy, on the other. In reply to a question as to whether the realization of these goals is possible, Benbitour said that the task is difficult but not impossible because Algeria posseses great development capabilities. In answer to a question about the reasons which prevented the utilization of these capabilities and the deterioration of the economic situation and the lowering of the standard of living, Benbitour replied that that is due to the divergence between population growth and the steps of economic development, which did not keep in step with the population increase.

Ahmed Benbitour believes that the big problem facing the Algerian economy is the difficulty in financing and obtaining credits for the development programs, as this increases the burden of foreign debt, and therefore Algeria has chosen the option of rescheduling of debts. With regard to the privatization of establishments of the public sector, Benbitour reaffirmed that the aim is to raise the production of the public sector from 50 to 100 percent. He pointed out that the Government does not oppose privatization and will privatize soon five big hotels, in addition to the privatization of the distribution sector. With regard to the amendment of the money exchange system, the finance minister pointed out that Algeria does not intend to free the exchange by way of devaluation of the currency, but by adopting a better monetary policy, especially following the rise in the exchange of the dinar in the parallel market.

In answer to a question about the negative effects of the freeing of trade on the hard currency reserve, the finance minister stressed that the competent departments will establish a system that helps to ascertain the real value of any imported commodity.

## Egypt

### Musa Issues Statement, Heads for Casablanca

*NC2910163094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa left Cairo this afternoon for Casablanca at the head of the Egyptian delegation to the Middle East and North Africa summit, which will be held there under the sponsorship of the United States and Russia.

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The Egyptian delegation includes Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, the public business sector minister and minister of state for administrative development; Economy Minister Muhammad Mahmud; Dr. Yusuf Butrus Ghali, minister of state for international cooperation; and Dr. Muhyi-al-Din al-Gharib, director of the Executive Office of the General Investment Authority. The delegation also includes around 50 Egyptian investors and senior businessmen.

In a predeparture statement, Musa said that this summit is a fresh step on the road to defining peace and its concept, and he referred in this respect to Moroccan King Hassan's statement that what is required is economic equality and balance because it is part of the justice needed in the region, which is based on peace.

The foreign minister added: We cannot think of sidestepping the peace process before it is completed. But even though it is not completed we have the presumption or the certainty that it is firmly proceeding toward a settlement. If we and the others have this conviction, then it is better if we start our talks by discussing the future of the region within the framework of a peace based on the principle of land for peace.

Musa added: We should not remain inactive, because peace is a dynamic movement and we should act accordingly. He stressed that economic cooperation bolsters the peace process and peoples could benefit from it. He said that economic cooperation is also a motive for activating the peace process on the Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian tracks. He noted that the peace process is difficult because the legacy of 50 years of enmity and wars has created many obstacles on the road to peace.

He said that the Jordanian-Israeli track is easier than the other ones, while the Palestinian track is regarded as the primary one. Action has to be taken within this context so that peace does in fact return. He added: The illusions and views claiming that the Israeli economy will swallow the Arab economy and market are unfounded and we doubt the parties making these claims have good intentions. He said a reply to these views will be presented objectively during this economic summit and not just through baseless criticism. [passage omitted]

### Presidential Decrees Go to People's Assembly

*NC2910181694 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a presidential decree amending some provisions of Law 73 of 1956 on practicing political rights. The explanatory memorandum of the law says that the National Dialogue Conference discussions have shown the need to introduce amendments to this law to ensure greater rights for the electorate and to check the voting lists so that they will be accurate. The amendment also aims to use the ban on the exercise of political rights as sparingly as possible.

President Mubarak also issued a decree amending some provisions of Law 95 of 1980 on protection of ethics, amending Law 40 of 1977 on the establishment of political parties, amending Law 34 of 1971 regarding the imposition of sequestration and ensuring the people's security, and abolishing Law 33 of 1978 on the protection of the domestic front and social peace.

The explanatory memorandum of these changes says that the democratic experiment led by President Husni Mubarak had superseded the laws that have been amended or abolished. The memorandum adds that democracy in Egypt has achieved great progress, that freedom has prevailed and national unity has asserted itself, and that the government's agencies and institutions have stabilized under this democracy.

Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi held a meeting today to begin implementing these laws. The meeting was attended by Minister of Justice Counselor Faruq Sayf-al-Nasr; Minister of Cabinet Affairs Counselor Ahmad Radwan; and Counselor Jamal Shuman, socialist public prosecutor.

Today the Government referred to the People's Assembly the decrees signed by President Husni Mubarak which concern new amendments to the law on practicing political rights, the law on the imposition of sequestration, and the law on ensuring the people's security and a decree cancelling all the provisions of the law on protecting ethics that affect the exercise of democracy.

Dr. Muhammad Zaki Abu-'Amir, minister of state for the People's Assembly and Consultative Council affairs, said the new laws endorsed by President Mubarak enjoy absolute backing from the national forces and will do away with the old restrictions. He noted that President Mubarak's cancellation of the political responsibility of the socialist public prosecutor realizes a cherished hope for the Egyptian people. Minister Abu-'Amir said the law protecting the domestic front and social peace, which imposed restrictions on participating in political life, has been abolished.

He noted that President Husni Mubarak has answered the hope of those who took part in the National Dialogue Conference that registration for the voting lists would be extended to three months every year instead of just one month.

The People's Assembly is scheduled to debate these decrees at the beginning of the new parliamentary session next week.

### Opposition Welcomes Mubarak's Decrees

*NC2910150994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1417 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA)—The Democratic Unionist Party [Al-Hizb al-Ittihadi al-Dimuqrati], one of the Egyptian opposition parties, has

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welcomed President Husni Mubarak's recent decrees, which strengthen freedom, democracy, and the sovereignty of law.

Party leader Ibrahim Turk said that President Mubarak's adoption of the National Dialogue recommendations, which have been unanimously adopted, underlined what we said in the past: that when President Mubarak called for holding this national dialogue he aimed to serve the homeland's supreme interests without any partisan one-upmanships.

Turk said those who withdrew from the national dialogue, which was recently held under President Mubarak's auspices, lost too much, because they could have put forth their ideas had they participated in the dialogue. He stressed that President Mubarak's response to recommendations refute the allegations that the dialogue was merely a venue for idle talk.

### Police Corporal Killed by 'Unidentified' Gunmen

*NC2910161994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1453 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA)—Secret Intelligence Corporal Ahmad 'Ashur Sayyid, from the Criminal Investigation Department in the al-Minya Security Directorate in Upper Egypt, was martyred this morning when unidentified gunmen attacked him while he was on his way to work.

A responsible source in the Interior Ministry said: At around 0915 today, unidentified gunmen opened fire on the above mentioned corporal while he was walking on the road between 'Izbat al-Shammas and the village of Naway, Markaz Mallawi in al-Minya. He succumbed to his wounds and died.

Officers from the al-Minya Security Directorate and the criminal laboratory experts went to the site of the incident to examine it. The security organs are continuing their search for the culprits.

### Cannabis, Opium Poppies Grown in Sinai Desert

*NC3010203894 Paris AFP in English 2002 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Oct 30 (AFP)—Egypt's Sinai desert became the country's main source of drugs this year after Lebanon cracked down on areas that grew cannabis and poppy, the head of the anti-drug squad said.

"The security services have seized 138 million poppy plants (source of opium and heroin) and seven million cannabis plants (hashish) in the Sinai since the beginning of 1994," General 'Isam al-Tirsawi told a conference on drugs.

Security forces confiscated a total of 90 million plants of both varieties the previous year, the Interior Ministry official added.

"The increase is due to the fact that the quantity of drugs smuggled by traffickers from Lebanon into Egypt has dramatically decreased since the restrictions imposed by the Lebanese and Syrian authorities," he added.

"The Sinai has become the main source of drugs in Egypt," al-Tirsawi said.

Until now Egypt consumed rather than exported drugs, he added.

Cairo, home to 15 million inhabitants or about one fourth of the total population of Egypt, "absorbs 60 percent of the drug trade in Egypt," al-Tirsawi said.

He said the quantity of drugs seized in Egypt represented one fifth of the total amount of drugs smuggled into the country.

In 1993 around 91 kilograms (200 pounds) of heroin were seized, 50 percent more than the previous year, he said.

It is easier to grow illicit plants in the Sinai desert because it is sparsely populated.

Egyptian security forces have carried out a dozen of large-scale operations in the Sinai since the beginning of 1994, al-Tirsawi said.

He also reported that 15,110 people were referred to courts in 1993 on charges of drug trafficking or drug consumption against 13,782 in 1992.

Drug traffickers risk the death sentence under a 1989 law while users risk hard labour.

Muhammad al-Salakawi, of the National Center for Scientific Research, said "one per cent of Egyptian youths use drugs but the number of real addicts is lower."

Half of Egypt's 60 million population is under 18.

Lebanon, with Syrian support, cracked down on drugs at the end of the 1975-1990 civil war. Poppy and cannabis fields in the eastern al-Biqa' Valley were set on fire.

Lebanese Interior Minister Michel al-Murr said last Thursday that his country, with Syria's help, had succeeded in eliminating 70 percent of the drug traffic.

## Libya

### Clinton's Syria Visit Called 'Embarrassing'

*LD2810183394 Tripoli JANA in English 1804 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tripoli, Al-Tumur [October] 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR [THE GREEN MARCH] newspaper asserted that the visit of President Clinton of America to Syria was embarassing to the latter which did not request the visit but found itself forced to accept it for many considerations.

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In an editorial today, the paper pointed out that the American President beame a heavy guest for he did not have anything to say or new to add especially that Syria was aware of the game taking place in the Middle East and pledged itself not to slide on the same slope on which those before it slipped.

The paper made clear that Syria expressed its opinion clearly towards all issues aimed at forcing the submission of the Arabs and humiliating them. We don't believe that the American President, who feared this visit despite his insistence on it, is able to change the Syrian stance towards firm issues. Syria is greater than to lose its national wisdom or forget itself like others in the presence of the American President. Also we believe that the American President has said all he wanted to say in Geneva and through his secretary of state who has toured the area many times.

The paper stressed that the visit of the American President to Syria showed that total failure was the ally of the American secretary of state in all his steps in the region.

Also the paper refered in its editorial to the so-called peace accord between Jordan and the Israelis. The paper said the document of abdicating the legitimate rights of the Arab people in Jordan was signed hence King Husayn compromised the struggle of the Arab people and turned his back to the central Arabs issue in the most ugliest race ever towards surrender.

The paper asked: "What is the ordinary Jordanian peasant going to do after his government offered to lease his land? Is there enough land for Jordan to cultivate to meet the needs of Jordanians in full which led the govenment to lease land to the Israelis?"

AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR concluded this editorial by saying "This repugnant action was a catastrophe denying the Jordanian his land and honour for land and honour are entimately linked and cannot be seperated. And now the Jordanian peasant has no option but to accept to become a wage earner in the farms of Master Rabin otherwise Jordanian peasants will die of starvation rather than becoming wage earner in his own land.

## Morocco

### King Views Middle East Peace Process

*MS2810104594 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 28 Oct 94 p 19*

[Report on interview with King Hassan II, Morocco, by Edward Mortimer and Francis Ghiles; place and date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] An "economic summit" in Morocco, over a thousand miles away, may seem a cruel irrelevance to relatives of those killed or maimed by last week's bus bomb in Tel Aviv, or to Palestinians thrown out of work by the indefinite sealing off of the Gaza Strip. But King Hassan II, who will open the Middle East economic summit in Casablanca on Sunday, believes it is highly relevant.

"Peace is not just a paper that you sign," he says. "Peace must have a content. It must forge common interests which put it beyond the reach of a new flare-up. The peace process has no meaning or reality unless it is accompanied by an economic development process."

This is not, he adds, a purely theoretical or long-term vision. He believes the Casablanca conference, to be attended by executives from leading multinational companies as well as heads of state and government, can and must "provide answers in the short term which will change the everyday life of people in the region".

It must, he says, "get across to political and business leaders both that this region has a formidable potential once peace is established, and that it has a desperate need for capital and jobs, which alone can make the peace process meaningful to the great majority of its people".

The 63-year-old king, interviewed in the slightly incongruous setting of his royal stables and stud farm, is no newcomer to the Middle East peace process. He has acted as a discreet intermediary in contacts between Israel and its Arab neighbours, and notably between Mr Yitzhaq Rabin, Israel's prime minister, and Mr Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Last week, in a ground-breaking interview with Israeli television, King Hassan said Morocco had a special relationship with Israel, based on its continuing links with 600,000 Jews of Moroccan origin "whom I consider my children even if today they reside in Israel". An Israeli "liaison office" in Rabat is to be opened today, as a step towards formal diplomatic relations.

Mr Rabin and Mr 'Arafat will both be in Casablanca on Sunday, despite the tension between them caused by the violence of Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic resistance group. Well aware of the threat this violence poses to the peace process, King Hassan says he was not surprised by the Tel Aviv explosion. He thinks it may well be repeated, and both sides should be ready for that.

But this, he says, is a reason to accelerate the peace process, not slow it down. A rapid move ahead to "the second phase, in which the Israeli army will be redeployed and the PLO's administrative authority will no longer be confined to the Gaza Strip and the island of Jericho", would enable Israel and the PLO to work together more effectively to combat violence.

"The longer you confine this entity to such a small surface," he explains, "the more the dangers will multiply. It's like a theorem in physics: if you have a pressure of 1,000kg on a surface of one square centimetre, it's more dangerous than the same pressure distributed over two square metres."

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The scientific simile is typical of a monarch who is determined to modernise his country, seeing no contradiction in the fact that his authority derives from centuries-old tradition and from religious faith. His only fear, he says, is that "change is coming too slowly", and that "if we do not change, Morocco may fall victim to its own administrative routine". The younger Moroccan entrepreneurs look to him for support in taking on vested interests and opening the country fully to foreign competition and investment.

Some say Morocco has actually benefited from the violent conflict between military repression and Islamic extremism in neighbouring Algeria: Moroccans are more aware that a liberal monarchy enjoying Islamic legitimacy is a precious asset. All the king will say in public on this subject is that "Morocco is Morocco and Algeria is Algeria".

In other contexts he stresses Morocco's advantage in having "existed as a state for 1,200 years". And he brushes aside any idea of a clash of civilisations between Islam and the west. "On the cultural level," he declares, "the west and the Moslem world have contributed equally to world culture... We are just as cultivated as the west, and we will never clash with it on the level of culture or of civilisation."

Politically, however, King Hassan is far from satisfied with the current performance of western Europe. He says he is "very sceptical" about the latest grand design from Brussels for a Euro- Mediterranean Economic Area.

"I'm a bit like St Thomas," he"says. "I like"to see before I believe. We've had so many promises from Europe. But Europe is expanding. It's trying to digest mentalities and social structures which are different from its own. It's trying to deal with everything at once, and with iTself. That's why I don't feel so much resentment towards Europe; it is searching for itself."

Resentment shows through, all the same, and the irony gets heavier when he speaks of the different approaches the EU [European Union] takes to its eastern and southern neighbours—the former being identified as future members of the Union, whereas his own application in 1987 (which he now admits he himself "did not really believe in either") was laughed out of court.

"That doesn't hurt me," he claims, "because I think Europe remains an entity with a certain memory. They think of themselves as the whites, the colonisers, while we are the former colonies. We are not full citizens. We supposedly have no scholars—and yet we do have them. We have no great professors—and yet we do have them...

"And so they look for allies more to the east, because there people are white,...because it's one big family. And then they look across the Mediterranean and say: 'Ah yes, it's true, there are those poor little people that we colonised...'"

Religion, the king insists, plays no part in it. "It's still the memory of the European colonial past which is at work." In the last century, he points out, Europe produced a galaxy of scholars "who had a perfect knowledge of Islam and of Moslem civilisation". If Europe now fears Islam and associates it with violence, that is due to "a regression on the European cultural level".

Yet he admits that "there are faults on both sides", and he is hoping to improve matters through Ifrane University, Morocco's first private university, which will open its doors to Moroccan and foreign students in January. "Inspired by American teaching methods", this will be "open to all revealed religions". But the students, paying a maximum fee of $5,000-a year, will be expected "to specialise in an Islamic subject", as well as study technology and science, including economics and business studies, at the highest international level. By the end of a three or four-year course they will "look at Islam in a new way", and will spread its "real image" on their return to their own countries.

The languages of instruction at Ifrane will be English and Arabic, and the choice of English in preference to French is significant. One of the colonial legacies King Hassan and his countrymen are most anxious to escape from is what they see as a constricting tete a tete with Latin European culture.

Perhaps for this reason, he is disappointed at the lack of official UK interest in the Casablanca summit. France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Austria will be represented by their heads of government, and the US by secretary of state Warren Christopher. Britain is sending only Mr Douglas Hogg, minister of state at the Foreign Office, rather than Prime Minister John Major or foreign secretary Mr Douglas Hurd.

"I should have liked Mr Major or Mr Hurd to come in person," says King Hassan wistfully. "After all, Great Britain has always been present in the Middle East, and it was with us in Morocco that she had her first commercial treaties."

## Sudan

### Minister: Country Ready to Improve U.S. Relations

*EA2710183594 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 27 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din, minister of state for political affairs, has urged the United States to improve its relations with Sudan, pointing out the government's readiness to reconsider the level of these relations and base them on sound foundations. His excellency said in an interview to AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE that the Sudanese Government had a clear concept concerning political relations with Washington, pointing out that this concept was based on justice and equality within a relationship. He stressed that this

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meant that Sudan should be treated as what it is with its qualities, namely that it is an Arab-African country with Islamic orientations.

Dr. Ghazi added that Sudan was ready to deal with the United States. He said it should not demand that we sever our relations with Iran because of its hostility toward the United States, while the U.S. Government maintained firm relations with Israel, which was clearly a state that was hostile to the orientations of Sudan.

Dr. Ghazi called for the holding of a serious and effective dialogue between Sudan and the United States to overcome the slump in relations between the two sides. He said the Sudanese Government was not hostile to the vital interests of the United States, which are the securing of the waterways in the Red Sea and the trade traffic with the region, and ensuring the arrival of exports in Western countries. Dr. Ghazi denied accusations by U.S. State Department officials that Sudan pursued a foreign policy that threatened U.S. national interests on the African continent. [passage omitted]

## Al-Turabi on Muslims' Duty To Defend Themselves

*AU2710134394 Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 26 Oct 94 p 5*

[Interview with Hasan al-Turabi, the "most influential man in Sudan," who is considered to be the "personification of a fundamentalist terrorist" by "the U.S. Administraton and other Western countries," by Ernst Hunziker in Khartoum in "mid-October": "Sudan's Pioneering Role Among the Islamists"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Hunziker] Mr. Al-Turabi, why are you not striving for a political office? Do you not want to become president of the Republic of Sudan?

[Al-Turabi] I am a university graduate. I became a politician only by coincidence. The circumstances in my homeland have thrown me into political life. I have been minister three times, that is enough. I do not want an official post anymore.

[Hunziker] But you want to remain the influential chief ideologist of the National Islamic Front?

[Al-Turabi] I do not believe that an ideologist or a philosopher can make history. For instance, socialism cannot be derived from ideologies but from the injustices in society. I advise our politicians, who want to rule Sudan on the basis of Islamic principles. I do my best so that the Islamic movement fully permeates our society.

[Hunziker] The Islamic Law, the Sharia, is valid in Sudan. How can a modern state be ruled with this Medieval law?

[Al-Turabi] Someone who is religious can base his life only on the Koran. God is everywhere. He cannot be imprisoned either in churches or in mosques. His word must determine politics, economy, art, and science. The Islamic values apply everywhere. There is no separation between religion and state—not as in Europe, where only a small area is reserved for the great God. The true God in the West is man. This is the demise of religion. I am proud that in Sudan the holy law, the Sharia is valid for everyone.

[Hunziker] Are Arab states, which do not implement the Islamic law as rigorously as Sudan, godless regimes? Algeria for instance?

[Al-Turabi] Yes, quite so. These governments are not Islamic.

[Hunziker] Should they therefore be overthrown by force? Do you therefore support the attacks by the Algerian Salvation Front (FIS)?

[Al-Turabi] Islam tells us that we should talk peacefully to our opponents at first. The Koran also tells us that we must never take the initiative of aggression. However, if someone, like the Algerian Government, uses force against the Muslims, then it is their duty to defend themselves. Thousands of Muslims who are struggling for democracy in Algeria, Egypt, or Saudi Arabia are imprisoned or killed. The Europeans care little when the victims are Muslims. On the contrary, it is the Europeans who finance the oppression of the Muslims.

[Hunziker] What are relations like between Sudan and the FIS?

[Al-Turabi] The renaissance of Islam is visible everywhere, in the Middle East, in Africa, and in Asia. It is promoted by us. Our Islamic movement in Sudan has good contacts with that in Algeria, yesterday and today. We jointly discuss how an Islamic policy and economy can be developed.

[Hunziker] Do your relations not go beyond mere talks? Algeria and Egypt are accusing Sudan of supporting fundamentalist groups with money and weapons...

[Al-Turabi] How? Do you seriously believe that Sudan is so rich that it can support all groups financially? All fundamentalists all over the world?

[Hunziker] Thus, it is not true when the Egyptian Government claims that terrorists are being trained in Sudan?

[Al-Turabi] It is just the other way round! Until most recently it was Egypt and Britain that colonized and forcibly oppressed Sudan. What the Egyptians claim now is not true. Apart from the embassy personnel, not a single Egyptian lives in Sudan. It is U.S. propaganda that constantly claims Sudan is a terrorist state. All these are empty claims. Or do you know of any proof? There was not and is not a single political murder that started from Sudanese soil. Not a single one.

[Hunziker] Today the Islamic Republic of Iran is one of Sudan's closest allies. Do the differences between Sunnis and Shi'ites not form any barriers?

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[Al-Turabi] Indeed, we have good relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The differences between Sunnis and Shi'ites do not play any role in that. In the past, too, there were only rivalries among politicians and not differences within Islam. I am firmly convinced that our religion should not be divided into movements or sects. The division and the distrust between Sunnis and Shi'ites are of historical importance, if of any importance at all. I feel responsible for all Muslims, be they Sunnis or Shi'ites.

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## Kuwait

### President Clinton, Delegation Pay Visit

#### Heir Apparent Welcomes Clinton

*LD2810144294 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 1210 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[Speech by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah Al-Salim al-Sabah, prime minister and heir apparent, welcoming President Bill Clinton outside Kuwait City—live, in English, with superimposed translation into Arabic; translated from the Arabic]

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. President, brave soldiers, and dear friends: It is a great pleasure for all of us to have the president of the United States of America with us here today [applause] among the brave soldiers of the United States, Kuwait, the Gulf Cooperation Council, Britain, and of other friendly countries.

On behalf of all of you and on behalf of the people of Kuwait, I warmly welcome President Clinton and the distinguished accompanying delegation.

This visit underlines the importance of the U.S.-Kuwaiti partnership. It also sends a loud and clear message to the Iraqi regime that the United States and the international community will not allow the Iraqi regime to again threaten the peace and security in the region or to blackmail the United Nations. [applause]

I take this opportunity to express Kuwait's deep gratitude for the American people's continued support and help, and great appreciation for you, Mr. President, and for your Administration for the prompt and decisive response against the Iraqi threats [applause].

We highly value the United States' friendship and we will continue to work with the United States to strengthen and expand our joint cooperation for our mutual interest and common goals. Thank you very much, Mr. President, for your visit, especially at such a time. This has great significance and value to us all. Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you all. [applause]

#### Amir Gives Speech at Decoration Ceremony

*LD2810180194 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 1550 GMT 28 Oct 94*

["Text" of speech by Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah at the ceremony for President Bill Clinton at the Bayan Palace on 28 October—live, in Arabic with superimposed translation into English]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Your Excellency Mr. President, I welcome you onto Kuwaiti soil, in the name of the people of this land who are delighted to welcome you and take the opportunity to express their appreciation and gratitude to the great people of the United States and to you personally.

Your visit, short as it is, has a great significance. It is an expression of your people's lofty ideas and readiness to defend them so that peace will prevail among the nations of this world.

Mr. President, the friendship which bounds our two countries and peoples, in spite of the disparity in size and geographical distances, is an irrefutable evidence of our unity of purpose and our endeavour to pursue the common interest of all the peoples of the world for humanitarian reasons.

You Mr. President and us share our beliefs in the necessity of containing the aggression by some and their tendency to violate international law. Our people appreciated your people's stances and their readiness to sacrifice by sending men and women of the U.S. forces here to stand side by side with their friends to defend these noble principles.

It seems that even in these days some evil powers, driven by consuming lust to dominate and oppress, think they can disregard covenants and values and commit aggression whenever they feel like it. Such an outlaw nation can only be deterred by resolute power capable of reverting it back to its senses and show it that there are still those who will defend law and the principles of peace and justice.

Mr. President, the people of Kuwait want to express to your excellency the deep appreciation for your noble qualities, especially matching your words with deeds, with patience that does not lack resolve, and compassion that does not lack determination. They also want to convey to you, and through you, their feelings towards the people of the United States who, with full awareness and determination, took it upon themselves to defend just causes wherever they might be.

It is a source of great pleasure for me, that in the name of the people of Kuwait and in the name noble friendship that binds our two countries and peoples, to present you with our highest decoration, the necklace of Mubarak the Great. A sign of our thanks and gratitude and a path to sincere friendship between two peoples not only unified in fighting by common interest, but also by high ideals. It is a sign of a new stage on a road full of friendship. With my deepest affection and highest regards, may peace be upon you.

### Third National Assembly Session Opens

#### Amir Delivers Address

*LD2910101694 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 0613 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[Speech by Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah at the opening of the third session of the National Assembly in Kuwait—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. Praise be to God, and prayers and peace be upon our master Mohammad, the last of the Prophets.

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My brothers; peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you; in the name of God and with His guidance; with success from Him we open the third session of the seventh legislative chapter of the National Assembly.

My brothers, the reality we are living through, and whose events are interacting with each other, is the best testimony and the best proof that Kuwait is the land into which our roots go deep, and is the fortress in which we seek shelter after God Almighty. Kuwait is the entity which dictates our cohesive presence. By this entity we, and others, realize who we are. The Kuwaiti people once again realized that their entity was being targeted, and vis-a-vis this danger the Kuwaiti people took a firm stand, which they expressed in one word: Loyalty to this homeland and readiness to die for the sake of its dear soil. Thanks to the sons of our people for standing in one line against those having ambitions toward our country; thanks to our army and armed forces for protecting our border; and thanks to the security and national guardsmen for protecting our home front. And thanks to every citizen who stands firm, who is aware and doubling his effort in carrying out his work. [applause]

Thanks to all our brothers and friends who stood by us in the same trench, and to every honorable voice that expressed its support for us and its solidarity with the people of Kuwait.

My brothers, we live in a sensitive region which is today passing through a critical phase of its history. This fact makes it imperative for us to plug every gap through which we may expect something to infiltrate and disturb our security, unity and solidarity. Through our democratic experiment I feel, and you feel, that the cohesion of energies and the objective study of the issues under discussion, and the serious dialogues which are remote from selfish interests and personal benefits, and the placing of the interests of Kuwait above all other considerations is the most correct and sound way to serve the homeland and its citizens.

We have to look forward to the future so that no transient incident will preoccupy us and prevent us from knowing what we should know. We should always be prepared and be ready before any incident takes place, and we should examine issues with objectiveness so that we are not taken by surprise and so that our actions are not mere reactions to events.

My brothers, Kuwait today is living through a glorious state of cohesion which is being praised by the international media in its admiration for the cohesion of our small nation. [passage omitted]

### Prime Minister Gives Speech

*LD2910104494 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 0631 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[Speech by Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent, at the opening of the third session of the National Assembly in Kuwait—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

Brothers, Mr. Speaker, members of the honorable National Assembly. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

We meet today at the opening of the third ordinary session of the seventh legislative chapter at a time when we are experiencing the events of the new sinful attempt by the treacherous Iraqi regime to carry out aggression against Kuwait and thus threaten peace and security in the entire region, when it gathered its armies and pushed them toward our borders and again voiced its hostile threats against the sovereignty of our homeland and the safety of our people.

Then there was the memorable stance of all the people of Kuwait, when they stood in one line to confront the aggression. There was also the total solidarity of your assembly and the government at the former's extraordinary session, and its approval of the measures taken by the government to confront the threat of the Iraqi regime. [passage omitted].

There was also the immediate and decisive response by our brothers and friends who declared their solidarity with us and who hastened to send their forces—by land, sea and air—to stand next to our valiant forces along the front lines.

That was shining proof of the strength of our stance and the soundness of our decision, and confirmed, in practical terms, that we do not stand alone in confronting evil and tyranny.

The historical and principled stance taken by the international community condemned and denounced the massing of Iraqi troops and Iraqi threats, and insisted on halting the Iraqi regime's threats toward Kuwait's security and the region's stability, to its blackmailing the United Nations and the international community. The international community supported Kuwait's just cause.

All this confirmed that the issue here was not simply Kuwait confronting the Iraqi regime, but was an international issue to confront an outlawed regime.

There is no scope for trusting it, and accordingly, the United Nations issued its historical Resolution No. 949, which condemned the massing of Iraqi troops near the Kuwaiti border and demanded their withdrawal. [passage omitted]

Brother members, in view of what happened, I find it necessary for me, in the name of Kuwait—both government and people—to extend my many thanks and great appreciation to all the sisterly and friendly countries that announced their support for us in those difficult times and quickly responded in practical terms by sending their troops to the region to repel any aggression.

They supported us in international forums. This firm international stance came as a decisive and clear message

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to the Iraqi regime that the international community was fed up with its lies, fallacies, and attempts to maneuver around the international resolutions, all of which constitute a constant threat to peace and stability in the region.

Respectable brother members, one of the biggest proofs of our just cause is that those who backed the enemy in its attack and occupation [as heard] of our country seem to be ceasing.

The Iraqi stances have to be sincere, confirming acceptance of related Security Council resolutions, particularly those dealing with respecting the sovereignty of the State of Kuwait, the safety of its lands and its international borders. Expression of such stances must be clear, leaving no scope for contradictory interpretations. It is not possible or acceptable to stand with right and falsehood at the same time.

Brother members, we announce to all the world that we do not call for the starvation of the Iraqi people or for the deprivation of food and medicine. They are a victim of the Iraqi regime, which must work on lifting the siege from its people by giving up its aggressive practices and expansionist plans—plans which brought one tragedy and catastrophe after the other on its people. It must fully implement all Security Council resolutions related to its aggression against the State of Kuwait.

Brother members, confronting the attempts by the Iraqi regime to maneuver around the UN resolutions made it imperative for us to make urgent efforts at various levels. This began with extensive diplomatic moves by the government in the forms of the Foreign Ministry and other governmental departments; and also the good efforts made by your honorable assembly in the way of positive tours of many fraternal and friendly countries. That solidarity between the two authorities and its fruitful results were a good example of distinguished patriotic action. This led to success—with God's assistance and blessing. Our urgent efforts will continue at all levels and in all spheres in order to defend our cause in a way that will preserve our country's sovereignty and independence, and ensures its safety and stability.

The protection of the country's security and the preservation of its sovereignty, independence, and the safety of its citizens will remain our main concern and preoccupation. Therefore, the government will spare no effort in providing backing for the rebuilding and arming of our armed forces, thus enabling them to play their vital role in the defense of the homeland. Studies relating to the development of procedures and legislation concerning compulsory and reserve military service are now near completion, and will ensure maximum benefits from our conscripted youth.

Brothers, the treacherous Iraqi regime is still prevaricating and ignoring the resolutions of international legitimacy with regard to cooperating with the competent international organizations about the question of the innocent prisoners who were detained by that regime's forces, who put them in prison without justice and in defiance of all legislations and laws. In order to end this human tragedy we are continuing our efforts and contacts at all levels with the fraternal and friendly states and the various international organization in order to concentrate international pressure on the Iraqi regime to release and return these innocent prisoners to their homeland and families.

Brother members, we are now facing a phase of a heavy economic burden, the result of the direct and indirect consequence of the treacherous Iraqi invasion and its repeated threats. It has become necessary that we take a practical and comprehensive review of the situation, remote from partial treatments. In this connection, the government has embarked on taking decisive steps in order to deal with the deficit in the state budget by way of reducing expenses, rationalizing benefits from public services, finding new sources of income, and through consolidating the role of the private sector in economic activity, and increasing its effectiveness and facilitating its assumption of the management of some public services and utilities in an endeavor to reduce expenditure on the latter and to improve their standards of performance. This will be done in a manner that will also lead to an increase in the contribution of the private sector in absorbing national manpower and in realizing the best exploitation of national energies. These no doubt are measures which make it imperative to have serious positive cooperation by all, each in his own specialization, and to exercise a spirit of responsibility in our dealing with the requirements of the challenges confronting our national economy so that we can deal and surpass them, and realize the aims we aspire for in a manner that guarantees the country's safety and preserves its sovereignty, and will push current and future reconstruction and progress forward.

Brother Speaker, members of the honorable National Assembly. We are facing a treacherous enemy in whose nature evil and hatred have become part. It is inevitable, in order to face up to its threats and to foil its plans, that we should muster all our capabilities, recruit all our energies, and mobilize our society so that every Kuwaiti is ready at all times to take his place in the defense of the homeland so that we can reaffirm to the entire world that the crime of 2 August [1990] will never be repeated. Our dear Kuwait deserves that we should defend it with ourselves and with everything dear to us.

Our most important priority, O brothers, is to achieve that necessary transformation in the orientation of society so that it might be the same as that of our fathers and forefathers in their confrontaton of dangers and threats toward our dear homeland.

That is our fate, and God is with us. [passage omitted]

Let us carry on, with God's blessings and guidance, and stand in one line, working as brothers, cooperating, standing shoulder to shoulder, as one family, one heart, one hand, in the interest of precious Kuwait.

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We ask God Almighty pertinence and success. We ask Him to send our martyrs to heaven and to speed up the release of our prisoners and return them to us safely. He hears and responds. Peace and God's blessings and mercy be upon you.

### Minister: U.S. Forces To Remain in Country

*LD3010104994 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0904 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 30 Oct—Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Saud Nasir al-Sabah, in an interview published here today, stressed the State of Kuwait's "total" commitment to the Damascus Declaration, pointing out that there is no country at the "regional, Arab, or international level" that can move with the speed of the United States to confront any danger threatening the State of Kuwait.

Shaykh Saud explained, in an interview with AL-WAFD, that "as long as danger remains, the U.S. forces will remain in Kuwait permanently in the shadow of the current Iraqi regime, even if the likelihood of its invasion of Kuwait should expose one soldier to danger."

In this context, he noted that U.S. equipment is stored in Kuwait and there are personnel working permanently and regularly in Kuwait according to a policy of rotation of adequate numbers of people to maintain this equipment and gear. He also said: "U.S. forces are in Kuwait on a regular basis and they know about everything in the operation."

He pointed out that whenever Kuwait is exposed to danger, these forces will arrive by air, receive their equipment, and go immediately to the front.

He added that the agreement with Britain is similar to the one with America, except for the stockpiling of equipment.

As regard France: "There are basic principles of defense cooperation including joint maneuvers."

He alluded that the agreement with Russia allows for joint maneuvers, "however, within limits and with economic cooperation," stressing that there is no country at the "regional, Arab, or international level that can move as quickly as the United States in confronting any danger threatening Kuwait."

Shaykh Saud stressed that apprehensions have greatly receded after Security Council Resolution 949 was issued, alluding that the area has become a banned zone in land and air for Iraq, in addition to the withdrawal of the Iraqi regime's forces.

He noted that the current American presence deters any Iraqi threat against Kuwait and that there is a general consensus that the American presence had checked the Iraqi military force during the Desert Storm war.

The information minister stressed that there are Arab countries, including Jordan, which open their borders to provide the Iraqi regime with everything. He stressed that hundreds of trucks loaded with weapons, equipment, and ammunition have entered Iraq through Jordan. He wondered how Iraq can rebuild its military capability and its air force in spite of the blockade imposed against it for more than three years.

The Kuwaiti information minister pointed out that there are four strategic plans to defend the state of Kuwait against any threats by the Iraqi regime: The first plan lies in self-reliance through the establishment of a Kuwaiti force of deterrence. The second plan lies in the second lines of defense, which should be secured by the Gulf Cooperation Council. The third plan revolves around the Damascus declaration, which includes the six GCC member countries plus Syria and Egypt. The fourth plan is secured by the bilateral security agreements with the United States, Britain, France, and Russia.

Shaykh Sa'ud pointedly asserted the need to continue with the military plan adopted following the liberation of Kuwait, which stipulates that Kuwaiti forces should be equipped with sophisticated weapons. He pointed out that fresh shipments of sophisticated tanks will be arriving in Kuwait soon.

Concerning the Peninsula Shield forces [GCC forces], Shaykh Sa'ud pointed out that marginal problems between a number of Gulf countries had prevented the forces from becoming a force of deterrence at the moment.

He expressed, however, his hope that such marginal problems will be resolved and that a joint Gulf force of deterrence will be set up, first in the air force, the air defenses, command and control, and then in the land forces.

Regarding the Damascus Declaration, Shaykh Sa'ud said that Kuwait is fully committed as a signatory to the Declaration. He pointed out, however, that Kuwait should not be blamed for the Declaration's stumbling.

He stressed that Kuwait sees Egypt and Syria as a political and military outpost. He reiterated, furthermore, that Kuwait is ready to open its doors to Egypt and hopes to see an Egyptian presence in Kuwait now, particularly following the Iraqi regime's recent threats.

He pointed out, however, that the problem can be resolved through coordination between the signatory countries of the Declaration. He pointedly reiterated that Kuwait has fully met its economic commitments, in particular.

### 'Islamists' Lose Influence in Parliamentary Elections

*NC3010171694 Paris AFP in English 1623 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuwait City, Oct 30 (AFP)—Islamist MP's lost influential positions in the Kuwaiti

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parliament amid allegations the elections were rigged, deputies said Sunday [30 October].

Islamist Deputy Ahmad Baqir was replaced as secretary general of the 60-seat National Assembly—a post which helps set the agenda for debate in parliamentary committees—by independent Talal al-Ayar, they said.

Influential religious deputies Nasir al-Sani and Mofarraj Nahar al-Mutarri lost their seats on the Finance Committee, while liberal MP 'Abdallah al-Nibari won a seat on it during elections held Saturday.

"Both al-Sani and al-Mutarri were considered to be among the most qualified figures for the post," an economist who asked for anonymity told AFP.

"The results were a shock to us. We knew that some (liberals) in the government held several meetings last week with MP's to control the election, but we never thought it will go that way," an angry Islamist deputy told AFP.

"The parliament is the loser in the end," because it is losing qualified people, he added.

Key issues like taxation and the budget deficit caused by the Gulf war will be tackled by the Finance Committee during the third session of the parliament which began Saturday.

Islamists are left with two of the nine seats in the Finance Committee.

Islamist Mubarak al-Duwaylah lost his seat on the Interior and Defense Committee to a pro-government MP. The committee deals with the problem of stateless Arabs and who gets Kuwaiti nationality.

Another powerful Islamist Khalid al-'Adwah, who had led a campaign against the liberal minister of education who was removing Islamists from the ministry, lost his seat on the Education Committee.

An independent MP who declined to be named told AFP the "results of the elections reflect the desire of MP's to tackle the major problems the country is facing, rather than spending all the time discussing small problems."

Islamists—who hold 25 seats in parliament—have been particularly critical of the government since the end of the Gulf war to liberate Kuwait in 1991.

## Saudi Arabia

### President Clinton Pays Short Visit to Kingdom

#### Arrives in King Khalid Town

*LD2810195294 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Excellency Bill Clinton, president of the United States of America, arrived this evening at King Khalid's military town in Hafar al-Batin on a short visit to the kingdom. King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, met his excellency at the airport. [passage omitted]

#### Holds Meeting With King Fahd

*LD2810234594 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 2230 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Immediately after the arrival of King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, and U.S. President William Jefferson Clinton to the guests palace in the King Khalid Military Complex, the custodian of the two holy mosques decorated Clinton with the King 'Abd-al-Aziz Order.

After the ceremony, a meeting was held between the custodian of the two holy mosques and President Clinton. The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-Aziz Al- Sa'ud, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-Aziz Al Sa'ud, the second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the foreign affairs minister, and Prince Bandar Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-Aziz Al Sa'ud, Saudi ambassador to the United States. [passage omitted]

#### 'Text' of U.S.-Saudi Joint Statement

*LD2910021394 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0010 GMT 29 Oct 94*

["Text" of joint statement issued at end of U.S. President Clinton's visit to Saudi Arabia—read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] Hafr al-Batin, 28 Oct—King Fahd Bin-'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, met with U.S. President William Jefferson Clinton and the delegation accompanying him during His Excellency's visit to the kingdom on the 28 October 1994.

Bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and regional and international issues of common interest were reviewed during the meeting.

The two leaders expressed their enormous satisfaction with the level of the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and their readiness to promote and develop these relations in a way that serves the two countries' common interests, benefits the Saudi and the U.S. peoples, and contributes to establishing stability and progress in the region.

The two leaders also reviewed the latest developments in the Mideast peace process. In this context, the custodian of the two holy mosques hailed the efforts made by President Clinton and his government and expressed his support for all of the peace treaties.

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Then President Clinton expressed appreciation for the role played by the custodian of the two holy mosques and his government in contributing to the peace process. President Clinton particularly expressed his appreciation to the custodian of the two holy mosques and his brothers, the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council, for ending the second and third class boycott of Israel. The two leaders expressed their commitment to continuing all possible efforts in making tangible progress on the Israeli-Syrian and the Israeli-Lebanese peace tracks.

The two leaders stressed that permanent and comprehensive peace in the region should be based on the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace.

The two leaders also reviewed the threats to which regional peace and security have been subjected because of the recent Iraqi provocations and military threats, which constitute a blatant breach of the UN Security Council resolutions and demonstrate the Iraqi Government's lack of good intentions and its continuing threat to security and stability in the Gulf region.

The two leaders praised the UN Security Council's recent Resolution 949, while stressing the need for necessary steps to be taken in order to prevent a repetition of threats to the security of the region and Iraq's neighbors, particularly to the security of the State of Kuwait, and the stability of the region in the future.

The two sides expressed their conviction that any thoughts about easing the sanctions imposed on Iraq will be premature unless Iraq complies fully with all of the UN Security Council resolutions in connection with its aggression against the State of Kuwait and that pursuing any other course in order to lift or ease the sanctions against Iraq outside the the framework of the UN Security Council resolutions will only lead to the Iraqi regime's persisting in its aggressive policies and its defiance of the international legitimacy.

The two leaders stressed that there is no dispute with the Iraqi people, whose suffering they appreciated. The two leaders noted the articles about the humanitarian situation in the UN Security Council resolutions and pointed out the Iraqi regime's refusal to make use of these articles. Hence, the two leaders stressed, the Iraqi regime alone is to be blamed for the hardships the Iraqi people are experiencing.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United States of America condemn all terrorism and are in agreement about the enemies of peace and those who threaten aggression, kill the innocent, and hinder peace. By taking such a stance the two countries contribute to expanding the scope of peace and harmony between all parties.

### King Said Closely Following Mideast Peace Process

*LD2810175394 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1529 GMT 28 Oct 94*

Riyadh, 28 Oct (SPA)—An authoritative source made the following statement to SPA today:

The Government of King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, is following with great interest the developments in the Middle East peace process, in harmony with the processes constant line of consolidating the trend toward establishing a just, durable, and comprehensive peace in this region.

The source added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which previously welcomed the detente achieved in the bilateral negotiations, in particular the Palestinian and Jordanian tracks, and in light of the signing of the peace treaty between the Jordanian Hashemite Kingdom and Israel, wishes to express the hope that this treaty will constitute a new step on the path leading to a just, durable, and comprehensive peace in the region. This matter requires one to follow up this step with further steps on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, and the other issues related to the peace process.

### Opposition Group Said To Threaten Royal Family

*JN2910213494 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2118 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Algiers, 29 Oct (INA)—A group opposed to the Al Sa'ud family's rule has threatened to abduct a number of the royal family members if Riyadh does not release two opposition members.

Informed sources here have revealed that the Battalions of Faith [kata'ib al-iman] organization warned the Al Sa'ud family that it will inflict personal punishment and target the foreign interests in Saudi Arabia if the security services do not quickly release the two opponents Sifr al-Hawli and Salman Fahd al-'Awdah.

### Official Source Denies Financing 'Gang' in Yemen

*LD3110014294 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2330 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Riyadh, 30 Oct—Denying what REUTERS and AFP carried in their bulletins yesterday [29 October], quoting what they called security sources to the effect that the police in Yemen arrested a gang in Sanaa [as received] which was targeting Yemeni officials and alleging that Saudi intelligence was financing this network, a responsible source told SPA today that "the content of this news item is basically a fabrication in whole and in detail and is completely baseless."

The source added that "these intrigues and lies are aimed at damaging relations between the two fraternal countries, and that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as is well known, has never been at any time a source of offense to any state, and that it would have been better for the two aforementioned agencies to explore the accuracy of such news from their official sources."

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## Yemen

### Salih: Government To Move to Aden for Winter

*LD2810222794 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2020 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Aden, 28 Oct—Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih announced today that the whole of his country's government will move to Aden in the south after presenting its program to parliament for a [vote] of confidence next Monday [31 October].

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, who has been visiting Aden since last Wednesday, said in a meeting with leaders in Aden, including party and government officials, clergymen, and social and political figures: "The government which will move from the capital Sanaa to Aden—being the winter capital of the country—will do its utmost to implement the decision to transform Aden into a free trade area similar to the Jabal 'Ali area in the United Arab Emirates."

He revealed that a number of U.S., French, and Japanese firms have contributed to the necessary surveys to transform Aden into a free trade area using the facilities of its airport and its important international port in the region.

For the first time since the Yemeni civil war, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih praised the U.S. Administration—which strongly criticized him following the invasion of Aden by his troops last July—for U.S. support for the project to transform Aden into a free trade area.

He said: "The U.S. Government has shown its readiness to supply over $100 million toward the project for a free trade area in Aden."

### Foreign, Justice Ministers Said 'Targeted' by 'Gang'

*LD2910175194 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1714 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Aden, 29 Oct—Yemeni security services arrested here today a gang whose members are all Yemeni. Security services said the members of the gang were planning to carry out acts of sabotage and assassinations against a number of government officials.

A security source told the Kuwaiti news agency [KUNA] that preliminary investigations with the five gang members have revealed that Yemeni Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani and Minister of Justice 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Daylami are among the officials who have been targeted.

The source did not identify any of the gang members.

### Saudi-Backed Sabotage Ring Discovered

*JN3010110094 Baghdad INA in English 0925 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sanaa, Oct 30, INA—Yemeni security organs arrested elements of a sabotage network employed by the Saudi intelligence to carry out subversive acts in Yemen.

Yemeni security sources said several Yemenis were arrested in this connection in various provinces who were reported to be making preparations to implement sabotage operations in economic installations and assassinate Yemeni officials.

The sources added that security organs were trying to arrest the remaining members of this network and that confessions of those arrested indicated that they were mobilized by the Saudi intelligence for this purpose.

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## Bombs Rock Mosul Government Building, Baghdad Church

### 'Huge' Explosion in Mosul

*NC2810163494 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] A huge explosion rocked the Mosul governorate building on 25 October. Reporting the blast today, newspaper KURDISTAN NWAY says that the Iraqi regime's henchmen cordoned off the area and started a wide-scale search campaign.

There have been no immediate reports on the losses caused by the explosion.

### 4 Casualties in Baghdad Blast

*JN3010111694 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1053 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA)—An explosion that occurred this morning near the entrance to the Virgin Mary Chaldean Church in al-Karradah-Kharij in Baghdad resulted in the death of three policemen and a church deacon.

The explosion occurred when the police bomb expert was trying to defuse an explosive device hidden in a 2-kg baby formula container, which was placed inside the church.

The can was found at 0930 today by the church deacon, late Shamil Wadi', who took it outside the church gate and phoned the Police Department. The police rushed to the scene together with the bomb expert who tried to defuse the bomb. However, the device exploded, killing him, a police officer, and his assistant, as well as the church deacon. They were all martyred instantly. Three citizens in the street were injured.

The competent authorities are investigating this incident, whose base criminal objectives are very clear.

### Awqaf Minister Condemns Church Bomb

*JN3010192394 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1734 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA)—Dr. 'Abd-al- Mun'im Ahmad Salih, minister of awqaf and religious affairs, has condemned the explosion that took place near the Virgin Mary Chaldean Church today, killing three policemen and a church deacon.

In a statement to a correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency, the minister added that the attack on innocent citizens who frequent places of worship is a crime against humanity that only evokes God's wrath. He indicated that the sinful hands that carried out this crime cannot carry any semblance of faith or human sentiments.

The minister explained that attacking innocent civilians and frightening them shows the bankruptcy of the hostile parties and those behind them—the enemies of the Arab nation—who seek to undermine the steadfastness of Iraq and its victorious march.

The minister of awqaf and religious affairs emphasized that this criminal act will only promote the Iraqis' determination to remain steadfast until the achievement of certain victory under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn.

### Paper Blames Mosad for Bombs

*JN3110094894 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA)—AL-QADISIYAH has said that the Zionist entity and its secret services and agents in Iraq have a clear hand in yesterday's criminal incident at the Virgin Mary Church and the earlier incident at the place of prayer of the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs.

In its editorial today, headlined "Search for the Mosad Agents," the paper says: Let the evil Zionists and Americans know that their blood-stained hands cannot undermine Iraq's strength and steadfastness.

The paper says that such ignoble criminal acts have clear evil objectives. When such acts target places of prayer and the church, the paper says, it is only natural that the Zionist Mosad agents are behind them, for nobody has an interest in targeting the children of our people—both Muslims and Christians—except those who seek to turn Iraq into a second Lebanon.

The paper says that those lowly acts reflect the frustration and bitter failure of the Zionist government and the Zionist entity, who have become impatient with the deep-rooted cohesion between all Muslim and Christian sects in Iraq, a cohesion which has been continuing for hundreds of years.

AL-QADISIYAH stresses that what has happened to Yugoslavia and what the U.S.-Zionist octopus has done in Bosnia-Herzegovina will never happen in Iraq under the tolerant leadership of President Saddam Husayn and his faithful course and splendid policies which take care of the entire people, irrespective of faith or sect.

The paper adds that despite the unjust blockade imposed on the Iraqi people in compliance with the evil Zionist-U.S. will, the Iraqi people are experiencing a state of stability the like of which is unavailable to many peoples living under ordinary conditions. Such lowly, criminal acts will not tarnish Iraq's bright image or harm the unity of its people and brotherhood of its children, the paper asserts.

AL-QADISIYAH says that the massacres in Ireland and Los Angeles will remain a mark of disgrace on the forehead of the United States and the Zionist West. Likewise, the crime of massacring Muslim worshipers at the al-Ibrahimi Mosque will remain an eternal mark of disgrace on the forehead of the Zionist entity.

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Concluding its editorial, AL-QADISIYAH says that this sinful hand must be found and cut off soon, together with the rotten heads standing behind them, especially the Mosad agents in the northern part of our beloved homeland—those who have sold themselves and their consciences to the Zionists and Americans at a very cheap price.

## Ex-French Defense Minister Chevenement Visits

### Criticizes U.S. Policy

*JN2810172894 Baghdad INA in English 1440 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct 28 (INA)—The French Former Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement has accused the United States of planning to spread its control on the Arab Gulf and dominate its huge riches.

In an interview to AL-THAWRAH daily published today Mr. Chevenement said efforts of the American Administration were pouring nowadays into the domination over the region of the Gulf which entertains strategic importance and very great wealths.

He has linked between this American strategy and the brutal [attack] against Iraq early in 1991 and added that the aggression led by America aimed at awakening Iraq as a military power that would have stood up in the face of its ambitions in this region.

The French former defence minister has also drawn the attention to the negative aspects of Iraq's remaining chained by measures of the blockade and warned that that would sternly imbalance the equation in the region and said the international community had to establish just bases enabling Iraq to come out of its difficult position and restore it to its international position and stressed that that would for sure lead to stability of the region and establishment of peace.

On his country's role in rectifying the situation Mr. Chevenement expressed his satisfaction over the new positive course the administration of President Mitterrand had drawn up away from influences of the American pressures and said the French Government was now following the right path.

### Meets With Saddam

*JN2910161494 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1528 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 29 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received Jean-Pierre Chevenement, a prominent French political figure and former French defense minister.

During the meeting, President Saddam Husayn expressed his great appreciation, as well as that of the Iraqi people, for the courageous, principled, and balanced position Chevenement has adopted toward the aggression against Iraq, as well as his continued endeavor to lift the unjust blockade against the Iraqi people.

President Saddam Husayn said that Iraq will continue the firm policy it adopted during the seventies to build close ties of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and France based on respect for the independent will of both sides and on the joint legitimate interests in light of bilateral, regional, and international ties.

During the meeting, which lasted approximately three hours, they held a profound dialogue on the situation in the region, future prospects, and relations between Iraq and the Security Council.

Chevenement stressed the importance of Iraq as an independent state that has a vital role to play in the region and its stability, as well as the need to lift the blockade imposed on Iraq.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz and Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf.

### Meets With Defense Minister

*JN3010130994 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Fighter Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, the defense minister, today received Jean-Pierre Chevenement, a former French defense minister and member of the French parliament.

They discussed ties between France and Iraq and underlined their concern to restore these ties to their previous condition for the benefit of the two peoples, who are linked by broad-based historic and economic bonds.

The defense minister praised Chevenement's courageous position in rejecting the military aggression staged by the 30-state alliance against Iraq, as well as his persistent efforts to lift the unjust embargo imposed on Iraq and educate the French public opinion about the depth of relations between the two countries.

Chevenement said he hopes the economic embargo imposed against Iraq will be quickly lifted and that normal relations can be restored so that Iraq can assume its role to achieve stability and balance in the region. He denounced the deceptive U.S. propaganda campaign against Iraq which aims to hide facts from the French, European, and world public opinions and maintain the unjust embargo.

### Meets With Oil Minister

*JN3010130594 Baghdad INA in English 1130 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct. 30, INA—Oil minister, Dr Safa' Hadi Jawad received today former French defence minister, Jean-Pierre Chevenement.

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The minister explained, during the meeting, the adverse effects caused by the continued crime of the blockade on the oil sector.

The two sides also discussed bilateral relations and means of boosting them to serve interests of both friendly peoples.

Mr. Chevenement lauded serious efforts exerted by the Iraqi technicians and engineers in the reconstruction drive to repair the damage caused by the U.S-led 1991 war against Iraq.

### Urges Lifting Sanctions

*LD3010202394 Paris TF-1 Television Network in French 1900 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In Baghdad, Saddam Husayn has received Jean-Pierre Chevenement, the former French defense minister who resigned during the Gulf War. He is one of the few westerners to have met the Iraqi head of state recently. On the agenda: the lifting of the embargo. The Frenchman advised Saddam Husayn to heed the UN demands. Our special correspondents Catherine Jentile and Thierry Froissard report:

[Jentile] Jean-Pierre Chevenement has gone back to his first love. [passage omitted; details of trip around Iraq] The leader of the Mouvement des Citoyens also met the people who are bearing the brunt of the embargo in the poorest region, the south of the country. [passage omitted]

In the visitors' book, the former defense minister spoke of an unforgettable visit. He had not met Saddam Husayn since January 1990. The Iraqi leader congratulated him on his attitude, which he described as courageous, and gave him some messages for Paris.

[Begin Chevenement recording] It is obvious that, if Iraq was not the second most important country in the world—joint first perhaps with Saudi Arabia—from the point of view of its oil resources, it would be left alone. Now the reality is that a very severe embargo is pressing heavily on Iraq today. It is causing the deaths of thousands of children. [end recording]

[Jentile] Jean-Pierre Chevenement, who purports to be independent, believes that it is time to lift the embargo which he compares to the siege of a town in the Middle Ages. This is the message he repeated to the numerous ministers he met. As for the Catholic fathers who received him, they pledged to pray for a positive outcome to the efforts of the former minister.

The authorities here in Baghdad pin their hopes on the action of France since Paris, Moscow, and Beijing have recently started to talk about a possible lifting of the embargo. However, the Iraqis are far from being euphoric because they know that the ultimate decision rests with the new world policemen, that is, the Americans.

## SAIRI: 6,000 Citizens Flee to Iranian Border

*NC2810170794 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] has announced that well over 6,000 Iraqi citizens have fled to the Iraqi-Iranian border to avoid the regime's bestial attacks against the southern regions.

In a statement issued yesterday, SAIRI calls for giving humanitarian help, including food supplies, to these citizens.

## 'Deported Kuwaitis' Continue To Join Camp in South

*JN2810195494 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Al-Basrah, 28 Oct (INA)—Deported Kuwaiti citizens continue to join the camp set up by the League of People With Rights in southern al-Basrah Governorate.

The INA correspondent in the governorate of al-Basrah said a new group of these deportees arrived in the camps from the governorates of Dhi Qar and Karbala'. It is noteworthy that the camp, which was set up on 4 October in response to the league's call, continues its activities by receiving arrivals, accommodating them, and making arrangements for their stay.

### New Groups Arrive

*JN3110110994 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1018 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Al-Basrah, 31 Oct (INA)—New groups of Kuwaiti citizens have arrived at the camp set up by the League of People With Rights in southern al-Basrah Governorate. They want to take part in the camp's protests against the practices of the al-Sabah family and to demand their legal and legitimate rights.

The Kuwaiti citizens, who arrived from the Wasit, al-Muthanna, Dhi Qar, Karbala', and Babil Governorates, were accorded a reception which soon turned into a demonstration in which participants condemned the practices of the ruling clique in Kuwait and its inhuman practices against Kuwaiti citizens. They urged the international community to treat them fairly and ensure their repatriation and restoration of rights and usurped property.

## RCC Decree Creates Authority for Approving Seeds

*JN2910132694 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic 18 Oct 94 p 2*

[Revolution Command Council Decree No. 181 of 11 October]

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[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the merciful,the compassionate.

Republic Of Iraq

Revolution Command Council Decree No. 181 dated 5 Jumada al-Awwal 1415 Hegira corresponding to 11 October 1994.

Decree

In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph (A) of Article 42 of the Constitution, the Revolution Command Council decrees as follows:

1. A state authority shall be created in the Ministry of Agriculture to be called the State Authority for Checking and Approving Seeds to be added to the state authorities stipulated in Clause "Second" of Article 4 of the Ministry's Law No. 7 of 1993, and it shall be linked directly to the minister.

2. The authority aims at preserving approved types of agricultural seeds in Iraq from deterioration and loss through examination, assessment, and quality control of seeds that are produced locally or imported from abroad in consistence with internationally approved tests and specifications and approving them.

3. The authority's various units, tasks, and powers shall be specified in guidelines.

4. Employees of the Section for Examining and Approving Seeds in the State Authority for Agricultural Research shall be transferred to this authority and they shall be subject to the provisions of Law No. 50 on Agricultural Departments of 1972. All the assets, laboratories, establishments, allocations, obligations, and rights of the aforementioned section shall also be transferred to this authority.

5. The minister shall issue the guidelines which will facilitate implementation of the provisions of this decree.

6. The decree shall go into force as of the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, chairman of the Revolution Command Council

## National Assembly Session To Resume Meetings

*JN3010211294 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA)—The National Assembly will resume its meetings on Saturday [5 November] as part of its current session.

In a statement to the Iraqi News Agency, Dr. Sultan 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Shawi, chairman of the Assembly's Legal and Administrative Affairs Committee, said that the assembly will discuss during this session bills regarding private companies, private guards, amendments to the Pharmacists' grading system, and the Minors Protection Law No. 78 of 1980. [passage omitted]

Al-Shawi indicated that the assembly has prepared a political action plan to augment the other initiatives Iraq has launched. The assembly will use its ties with world parliaments to explain such initiatives in the interest of Iraq through correspondence or direct meetings, al-Shawi added.

Al-Shawi emphasized that Iraq has continued to attend the meetings of the Interparliamentary Union held in a different world state every six months to explain the Iraqi people's sufferings, which are caused by the continued sanctions, and to submit proposals demanding an end to the sanctions in coordination with the parliamentary delegations Iraqi teams meet with on the sidelines of such meetings. Iraq, he added, has managed to win over more friends to its side, not to mention the fact that it has made contributions to the social, economic, and political debates held during such meetings. [passage omitted]

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### Rabin on Lebanese Joint Committee Proposal

*TA3110121794 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who returned home from Casablanca today, discussed with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher a Lebanese proposal to set up a joint military committee to deal with arrangements in south Lebanon. The prime minister made the remarks to our political correspondent Udi Segal who is now in the studio:

The United States will consider in the coming days negotiations between Israeli and Lebanese officers on an arrangement in south Lebanon. Over the weekend, Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi suggested setting up a joint military committee between the two countries to discuss an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] withdrawal from the security zone. He said his army can assure quiet along the border. Rabin conferred last night in Casablanca with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who asked him about Israel's position on al-Hirawi's proposal.

[Begin Rabin recording] In last night's discussions with Secretary Christopher, he asked for my view of the proposal. I suggested that the Americans discuss with the Lebanese to what extent that proposal calls for a prior Israeli commitment to withdraw to the international border as a condition for establishing the committee. If that is the intention, then I do not find it acceptable. If the intention is to sit down and discuss achieving peace, not based on Security Council Resolution 425 of 1978 but on peace negotiations, that would be interesting. [end recording]

Rabin previously suggested establishing such a committee to discuss an IDF withdrawal from south Lebanon within the framework of security arrangements, which include disarming Hizballah and assuring quiet along the border for nine months, but do not involve a total IDF withdrawal from the entire security zone. Lebanon rejected the proposal, and that is why Rabin is suspicious about the seriousness of al-Hirawi's proposal.

### Minister: Lebanese Offer 'Meaningless' Without Syria

*TA3010091294 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Telephone interview with Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer by Ya'el Dan; place not given—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Dan] Do we know for a fact that Syria is responsible for encouraging and timing last night's Hizballah attack in Lebanon?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] Let me put it like this: I have no doubt whatsoever that the moment Syria decides to put an end to the attacks, they will be over in a second. No matter what the Syrians say, I have no doubt that they are the channel through which funds are transferred, that they are responsible for keeping Hizballah alive, for its freedom of movement, and of course for the arms supply. Syria does not necessarily supply them with Syrian weapons, but it is responsible for the Iranian weapons they receive.

[Dan] Should we now expect a forceful IDF [Israel Defense Forces] operation in retaliation?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] I would not tell you even if I knew, but I have no idea what the plans are. I assume we will know later today, and I hope the IDF will act wisely.

[Dan] In parallel, we have heard Lebanese President al-Hirawi's proposal to establish a Lebanese-Israeli military committee to plan the Israeli exit from Lebanon, along with a guarantee that no attacks against Israel would be launched from Lebanon for six months. Is there any chance of Israel responding to this invitation?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] First of all, we should welcome the invitation; it must not be rejected. However, we have a lot of experience, and I for one am very well acquainted with this issue. Lebanon is no longer a homogeneous unit, and it is certainly no longer a political unit ruled by the Christian sector. On the contrary, the rule is on its way to being usurped by the Shiite sect, although the Sunnis, Druze, Hizballah, Amal, and others are also involved. I can hardly believe anything can happen without Syria.

[Dan] Are you saying the proposal is totally meaningless?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] The proposal is totally meaningless, unless it is backed by Syria. If it is backed by Syria and if it is a part of our contacts with Syria, if it is a part of a whole that starts now and will culminate in our signing a document of principles with Syria, then I would not rule it out altogether.

[Dan] Being familiar with the dynamics here, would you say the Lebanese president's proposal was made in coordination with the Syrian president?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] It is very possible, just as it is possible that it is some kind of a dangerous ploy. First of all, I do not believe the Lebanese president did it without securing at least the implied consent of the Syrian president. We know he is visiting the Syrian president today, and we will see what will be told to him. I reiterate, however: Without complete Syrian backing, this thing is worthless. [passage omitted]

### Rabin on Jordan, Separation From Palestinians

*TA2810155094 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (LESHABAT supplement) in Hebrew 28 Oct 94 pp 2, 3, 4, 5*

[Report on an "exclusive" interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Nahum Barne'a and Shim'on Schiffer on 27 October at the prime minister's bureau in Jerusalem]

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[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A Christmas atmosphere prevailed yesterday at the prime minister's bureau in Jerusalem. Gifts were opened. As expected, the indigent king's gifts were much more generous than those given by the prime minister. An archaeologist was summoned to inspect a large ancient oil lamp decorated with seven-branched menorahs on each side, which had been found in the al-Midba' digs. Polished silver plates, the queen's present, were given to wives and senior officials.

Rabin wanted to discuss Jordan. We pressed him to discuss Syria. Clinton had just landed in Damascus despite the repeated delays of the big leap in the process with Syria. Is Syria going to be the one big missed opportunity?

"I do not think so," Rabin said. "The Syrian readiness to make peace is not the problem. The Syrians understand that this is the right direction. The problem is what kind of peace and at what price."

If that is the situation, we asked, why not declare your readiness to make a full withdrawal from the Golan and secure an agreement with Syria?

Rabin replied crossly: "Are you positive an agreement would be made even if I declared a full withdrawal? I am not sure. If I make such an announcement publicly, in a binding way, what will happen to my bargaining chips?

"I am not sure how the Syrians see peace. I am not certain when they will be ready to normalize their relations with us, if ever."

A few hours before his tete-a-tete with Clinton, Rabin said: "I have done enough to explore the Syrian stands on issues pertaining to us." [passage omitted]

Had it been up to Rabin's instincts, he would have granted King Husayn the responsibility for the West Bank Palestinians. When Labor leaders had invented the Jordanian option, their approach was: Palestine must be Jordanized.

Rabin would like to do it, but he knows he cannot. Not now. We asked him whether he sees Husayn as his 'Arafat-bypass road.

"No. Husayn is an asset in his own merit. In fact, the Jordanian option as such died with the outbreak of the intifadah. On 14 May 1989, when the national unity government was in power, the Israeli Government for the first time acknowledged that the solution lay in negotiations with the Palestinians.

"I admit that mentally, it took me a long time to get over the Palestinian matter. Having lived through all the dreadful terrorist periods, making an agreement with 'Arafat was hard. I reached the conclusion that it was either 'Arafat or Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the Islamic Jihad. The previous government held a dialogue with Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi. Today 'Abd-al-Shafi is an extreme oppositionist to the peace process. Should we have reached an arrangement with him then?"

Rabin has no regrets about the Oslo agreement. He does have regrets about the details. He has difficulty implementing the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] redeployment. The elections are not being held anyway. At a private meeting this week he said sarcastically that the elections had been slated to be held in the summer, but they are nowhere on the horizon as yet.

"As an interim arrangement, the Oslo agreement contains contradictions," Rabin tells us. "I know it will have to be adjusted in the course of the implementation process, particularly the security aspect."

On the night of the Tel Aviv bombing, Rabin appeared on television and suggested a remedy: separation between the two nations. Why not, the PLO responded; let us start discussing the comprehensive agreement and part as friends.

"In reality, there is no separation and there will be none. I presented it as a goal. How can I demand a separation when I say no settlement will be uprooted in the interim stage? I am leaving Netzarim and Kfar Darom intact. Does this really correspond with the notion of separation? The complexity of our conflict with them is nothing like the complexity of the conflict between us and Egypt or East Bank Jordan.

"It is too soon to start discussing the permanent solution. But even when a permanent solution is achieved, will they stop being dependent on Israel? Or working here?"

'Arafat, we said, told his aides that he had Clinton's promise to complain with you about the closure. Does the closure make things politically difficult for you?

"The Americans never liked closures. But is that the problem today? I did not say it was going to be an eternal closure. I said: closure until further notice. We are waging a bitter war on Hamas. It is felt in Gaza, and it is felt here. The criminal act in Tel Aviv was fully carried out from territory controlled by us.

"Today I do not regret at all having opted for mutual recognition with the PLO and having 'Arafat as this government's strategic partner. He is not happy with some of the things he had hoped for, just as I am not happy with some of the things I had hoped for."

The most important decision made during the preparations for the peace ceremony in the 'Arava was the list of those not invited. The point of departure was the White House desire to focus all the limelight on Clinton. The idea to invite Clinton had been conceived by Eytan Haber in Jerusalem, but the moment Martin Indyk, the ambassador to Israel and one of the President's advisers, acquainted the President with the idea, the White House became the pushing party. The considerations were media and political related: The President should have maximum television time on the eve of the congressional elections.

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Many heads of state who had wanted to come were ruled out because of Clinton's problem. It was decided to downgrade the invitees as much as possible. Clinton would bask alone. 'Arafat and Mubarak were put down on the list of the uninvited, although with them the reasons were more complex.

In Peres' opinion, the failure to invite 'Arafat was a fatal mistake. It unnecessarily augmented 'Arafat's paranoia concerning the agreement with Jordan and his motivation to sabotage it. But Rabin's entourage had a different opinion: They were afraid that inviting 'Arafat would harm the Israeli consensus regarding the agreement; they were concerned that 'Arafat would turn the invitation down, publicly demeaning the agreement; and the main cause was the Amman palace reaction to the idea of inviting 'Arafat.

"We are mild in comparison," one of the Israelis who negotiated with Jordan said. "Husayn does not want him around."

"I do not think anyone has any cause to be displeased with us," Rabin told us. "I will not delay making a just, businesslike, honorable peace only because some other partner does not like it. I see no contradiction between our commitment to Jordan and our commitment to the PLO."

On Sunday, 30 October, Rabin and Peres will meet 'Arafat in Casablanca. The meeting will aim to appease him. This zigzag is, at best, a part of Israel's induction into Middle East politics. The crisis with Egypt is probably another part of that zigzag.

President Weizman recently turned down an invitation to Egypt which he received from an old friend, Husni Mubarak. Weizman summoned Ambassador Basyuni and gave him a dressing-down. Weizman aired a series of grievances against Egypt, the most serious of which was Mubarak's refusal to visit Israel.

Weizman was acting with Rabin's approval. Rabin had sent a note to Mubarak via Basyuni with a message of his own: As long as Mubarak refuses to come to Israel, Rabin will not meet with him on Egyptian soil.

The circle was thereby closed: The affair which Rabin and Mubarak conducted during the first half of Rabin's term turned into a crisis. There is bad blood between Egypt and Israel. The problem is not confined to the visit. At present, Egypt leads an anti- Israeli camp on a series of sensitive international issues. The trend is identified with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, but it was most likely inspired by Mubarak. Egypt is leading the drive to expose Israel's nuclear capability; it submitted a resolution to the United Nations proposing to acknowledge the Palestinians' right of self- determination; it has been pushing for anti-Israeli resolutions in international bodies. In addition, Israel is concerned about the assistance the Egyptian branch of Hamas has been extending to Hamas in the territories.

Rabin wanted to punish Mubarak. His having a new Arab partner made the act easier. Mubarak decided to swallow the insult: He settled for a brief meeting with Clinton, he sent Musa at 0100 in the morning Cairo time to the ceremony (where Musa was not allowed to speak), and called to congratulate Weizman and Rabin.

Rabin is a zealous believer in bilateral negotiations. Arabs scare him when they become allied. "They align according to their most extreme member," he says. Rabin's pronouncement about his decision not to postpone the peace treaty with Jordan merely because some other partner was sulking is valid with regard to Mubarak as well. [passage omitted]

### 'No Real Progress' Seen in Clinton-al-Asad Talks

*TA2810185794 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] This evening, senior political sources in Jerusalem confirmed that, despite the expectations the U.S. President and his secretary of state have created, no real progress was made after the meeting between Clinton and al-Asad. This was reported by our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik.

Foreign Minister Peres told our correspondent in Morocco that al-Asad will not be allowed to start real negotiations if he continues to insist on an advance Israeli announcement of a withdrawal to the 1967 borders. According to Peres, there is no majority support for this in Israel even today, but it is good that the Americans are increasing their involvement in the process.

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## House Discusses Treaty, Attack on IAF Deputy

*JN2910200494 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The House of Representatives discussed important topics today during a session it held under the chairmanship of House Speaker Sa'd Hayil al-Surur in the presence of Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali and the cabinet.

The following is a report by our parliamentary affairs correspondent Muhammad al-Tarawinah:

[Begin recording] [Al-Tarawinah] The House of Representatives today approved the final draft of its response to the King's speech from the throne. This response will be delivered to His Majesty King Husayn tomorrow.

One topic that raised broad discussion was the draft law to approve the peace treaty between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Government of Israel, which the government referred to the House of Representatives to pass through the constitutional stages. The discussion focused on the need to implement the provisions of the bylaws and the importance of attaching the reasons for urgency to the draft law.

Twenty three representatives took part in the discussion. Some called for postponing the discussion of this issue until another session and some were in favor of discussing it today.

Finally, after establishing that the draft law is, in fact, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, after this issue was raised by some house members, the House of Representatives decided to hold a session at 1000 tomorrow to discuss whether to discuss the draft law or refer it first to the specialized committee. The government agreed to this and will attach the reasons for urgency to the draft law. It is worth noting that the government has asked the house to deal with this draft law as an urgent issue.

The other important issue discussed today was what happened yesterday to Deputy 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant at Abi-Hurayrah Mosque. Deputy Dr. 'Abdallah al-'Akayilah expressed the position of the Islamic Action Front's deputies on what happened:

[Al-'Akayilah] Let us suppose that the shaykh violated the law—something which did not happen—why was the Preaching and Guidance Law not implemented? Let us suppose that the shaykh breached the law—something which did not happen—so, where is the sovereignty of the law and the judicial system in such a case? This matter was planned by the government and what took place prompts us to pause at this serious topic that could exacerbate the situation, God forbid. We could find ourselves compelled, in light of such a situation, to reconsider the state of affairs. We might also have to reconsider the issue of attending the sessions held by your esteemed house in light of how serious this house handles this issue, which in itself is a clear sign of the deterioration of the political and democratic march in our beloved country.

[Al-Tarawinah] Interior Minister Salamah Hammad then explained the measures taken in this regard:

[Hammad] I will convey to you what happened to Deputy Shaykh 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant at Abi-Hurayrah Mosque yesterday. At the outset of the prayers, the imam, who was appointed by the Ministry of Awqaf to deliver the Friday sermon, was surprised to see 16 young men standing around the pulpit, some of whom were not Jordanian. They prevented the preacher from ascending the pulpit to give the Friday sermon. After a heated 20-minute argument inside the mosque, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant ascended the pulpit and delivered the sermon inside the mosque without any objection. When he exited, he was attacked by civilians in front of the mosque. He was immediately taken in a Public Security car to [al-Husayn] Medical Center. In the beginning, he was under security due to the circumstances of the incident and in order to complete the investigations. Upon my request to the minister of justice, the prosecutor general immediately began an investigation to arrive at the truth. As a government, we do not approve of any disturbance of public security by any party whatsoever. We also condemn any attack against any citizen and any violation of the law whatsoever. We are here to serve this country and to serve everybody regardless of their political persuasion. We are all the sons of Jordan. Our objective is to maintain the security of the country, to protect it, and to maintain its rights and achievements.

[Al-Tarawinah] Deputy Muhammad Dawudiyah proposed that the house issue a statement that explains its position on this matter:

[Dawudiyah] The House of Representatives discussed what happened to Deputy 'Abd-al-Munim Abu-Zant on Friday 28 October 1994 and the House of Representatives expresses its sorrow, pain, and condemnation of what happened. The house also condemns and rejects violence by any person or party whatsoever, especially in the case of what happened to Deputy 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant and to Deputies 'Abd-al-Rahim al-'Ukur and Ahmad al-Kufahi. The House of Representatives calls on the government to refer the issue to the prosecutor general for investigation so that the guilty parties shoulder their legal responsibilities. The House of Representatives stresses the constitutional right to express opinions, the need to respect others' opinions, and the need to maintain and protect these rights according to the law and the Constitution. The House of Representatives has formed a parliamentary commission, headed by the house speaker, to study and follow up on the situation to fully handle this issue with the government and other parties.

[Al-Tarawinah] The house unanimously agreed to issue this statement. [end recording]

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## Senate Replies To King's Speech From Throne

*JN3010180494 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1208 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Speech by Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi in reply to King Husayn's 22 October speech from the throne, delivered at a meeting at the Royal Court in Amman on 30 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace and prayer be upon the Prophet Muhammad, the Arab, Hashemite prophet, and on his virtuous household.

Your Majesty King Husayn, may God watch over you and guide your steps: The Senate has the honor to extend to your majesty its warm greetings and its sincerest thanks for your inauguration of the second session of the 12th Jordanian Parliament. The Senate would also like to praise the speech from the throne, in its reaffirmation of Jordan's constant positions, which you have long upheld, as well as the noble principles and concepts you have spread among your people, thanks to your wisdom, tolerance, and broad vision. Thus, this loyal people has rallied around your throne and granted you their love and confidence, taking pride in your trustworthy leadership. Your leadership has led your people through difficulties and illuminated their path, thus enabling them to overcome challenges and arrive, together with you, on a safe shore, thanks be to God.

Your Majesty: Your government has reached a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, a treaty that is in line with Jordan's constants and international legitimacy and that secures the return of all Jordanian rights to land and water and to the demarcation of permanent international borders between the two sides. You have done away with the illusions, visions, and expansionist ambitions that could have posed great dangers for many years to come. You have also established Jordan's sovereignty and its national and pan-Arab rights, enhanced Jordan's security and safety, and created for it more opportunities for progress and development to address its basic issues. Thus, Jordan will be able to undertake its national, pan-Arab, regional, and international missions. This could not have been achieved had it not been for your majesty's concern to make the slogan of Jordan's constants a reality on the ground. Thus, you have instructed your government and its negotiating delegation to embody this slogan. This has been successfully done. You have established a distinguished international status for your country, thanks to the esteem in which you are held at international forums and to your personal virtues. You have also secured a distinguished, influential role for Jordan in our greater Arab homeland. This achievement has won admiration.

Despite this national achievement, you have been careful to express your hope that this treaty will greatly contribute to the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the entire region. This peace would give the peoples of this region new opportunities for progress and development. You have also reasserted your eagerness to support our brothers on the other Arab tracks to enable them to attain their rights in full, and to coordinate with all the Arab brothers.

The Senate supports this genuine Arab stand on the part of your majesty and blesses your efforts toward the return of Arab solidarity, toward healing the wounds of the past, and toward rising to a new level of political Arab action so our nation can undertake, once again, its pioneering message.

Your Majesty: Your eagerness to safeguard the democratic process in our beloved Jordan has been clearly reflected in the words and phrases included in the speech from the throne. These words and phrases underline a clear vision of the future of this precious part of the Arab homeland, as well as your majesty's determination to go ahead with what your majesty and your people have chosen; namely, to deepen the democratic process, assert its principles, develop its practices, and entrench its ethics. You have, therefore, reiterated the need for safeguarding the democratic approach, maintaining the supremacy of the law, and abiding by the Constitution, the National Charter, and political pluralism.

The Senate takes profound pride in the remarks your majesty so eloquently articulated when you said that this session was being held to consecrate the Parliament's role in our shura-based endeavor, whose pillars are based on the principles of right, freedom, and justice, and which has committed itself to pluralism, freedom of expression, and respect for dissenting views without any bias, extremism, or isolationism.

Your Majesty: Thanks to your farsighted vision and piercing perspective, you have decided that respect for human rights, man's basic liberties, democracy, security, and stability constitute an indivisible whole required to build a strong Jordan. You have said that all these prerequisites will help Jordan to shoulder responsibilities that are not exclusively confined to its own territory, but rather extend to include the defense of the entire nation, its freedom, history, security, and future. Consequently, the Senate would like to reiterate that the Jordanian Armed Forces and the national security institutions are a source of pride to us. They must remain the object of attention by our country. They must continue to receive support and aid so that they may continue to carry out their mission; namely, to provide protection and security to the citizens and the homeland. This cannot be achieved unless they have the components of strength and immunity at their disposal. They must continue to promote their potential and enhance their preparedness so that they may keep up with the pace of international developments and carry out their national and pan-Arab duties, not to mention the performance of their international humanitarian duties as part of peacekeeping forces in several parts of the world.

As for Jerusalem, Your Majesty: You have accorded it a high priority. This is only natural, particularly since it

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was the destination of the nocturnal journey of the Prophet Muhammad, God's messenger. The almighty God associated the al-Aqsa Mosque with the holy shrine in Mecca. Moreover, Jerusalem is the place from which the Prophet ascended to heaven. It is also the burial ground of your great grandfather, King Husayn Bin-'Ali, may his soul rest in peace. Furthermore, King 'Abdallah Bin-al-Husayn, your grandfather, the founder of the Kingdom of Jordan, was martyred at the al-Aqsa Mosque. May the expanse of paradise be his eternal abode.

The Hashemite household's care for holy shrines in this blessed city has continued. Your Majesty: You followed in the footsteps of the righteous Hashemite ancestors when you continued to defend the Arab identity of Jerusalem, and performed the duty of caring for and rejuvenating the al-Aqsa Mosque and its historic pulpit, the Saladin pulpit, as well as the Holy Dome of the Rock to refurbish it. Thus, your custodianship over the city has been maintained. By so doing, you have helped these holy shrines to remain in Arab hands. You have prevented them from meeting a fate that only God knows.

Future Muslim generations will continue to recall with gratitude and pride your majesty's efforts to rejuvenate the tombs of the companions of the Prophet, to improve the areas surrounding them in various parts of the kingdom, and to aid Islamic guidance in compliance with the injunctions of the true Islamic faith and the principles of moderation and centrism upheld by Islam, the principles which your majesty has always promoted and called for. You have consistently said that these principles must be promoted by mosques in the course of their efforts to uphold their mission.

Your Majesty the King: The Senate has taken notice of the information contained in the speech from the throne regarding the government's accomplishments, as detailed in the accomplishments of various ministries and departments. The Senate appreciates the efforts made by your majesty's government, particularly in the area of administrative, financial, and economic reform, and also in the areas of culture, education, higher education, social development, labor, workers, and agriculture. The Senate also applauds your government's efforts to continue to render basic services to citizens, and to uphold justice among people. The Senate will do its utmost to cooperate with this government to achieve prosperity for our country and countrymen, as it has always done. It will continue to do so in the future. The Senate will continue to responsibly study all that is submitted to it, express its frank views, and provide council and advice.

Therefore, the Senate would like to underline the remarks contained in the speech from the throne on the problems of unemployment and poverty. While appreciating the efforts made to address these two problems, as well as the efforts that have continued to be made to address them, the Senate is aware of the need to redouble efforts to mitigate the suffering experienced by a number of our cherished citizens.

We have pinned great hopes regarding various aspects of reform and the reactivation of the economy on the Royal Commission for Development and Modernization, which your majesty ordered to be formed and entrusted to His Highness Crown Prince Hasan. This is because his highness is known for his farsightedness and his concern for entrenching the concept of an institutionalized state, for confirming the supremacy of law, and for promoting concern for safeguarding public property.

The Senate believes that the new stage and the challenges it entails need to be confronted with a sound awareness of the rapid developments and changes in the world and the region and with a forward-looking and panoramic view of these developments. We must use this awareness and view to arrive at practical actions based on executive programs and timetables, and by creating true mechanisms to follow up, assess, correct, and develop programs. All this will take great alertness and courage so that we can follow our genuine Arab plan, which represents the true nature of our nation and the pillars of its character, so that we can participate effectively in world civilization.

Based on this, the Senate supports your majesty's emphasis, in the speech from the throne, on the comprehensive pan-Arab awakening plan, although its achievement is obstructed by the nation's current circumstances. We believe that our nation's bright future will be achieved through solidarity and cooperation on all that is in the best interest of this Arab and Islamic nation, which must now rise from its sleep and put an end to inaction.

Your Majesty, the Senate beseeches almighty God to grant you continued good health, strength, and inspired farsightedness in order to continue to lead your faithful people in the march of benevolence, right, and soundness. God is the best supporter. May God's peace and blessing be upon you.

### House Replies to King's Speech From Throne

*JN3010192094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1223 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Speech by House of Representatives Speaker Sa'd Hayil al-Surur in reply to King Husayn's 22 October speech from the throne, delivered at a meeting at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 30 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Your Hashemite Majesty King Husayn, may God support and preserve you: God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. It was so kind of your majesty to open the second ordinary session of the 12th Parliament, while almighty God granted you good health and strength. We

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beseech God to preserve you as a source of patience and wisdom; as an example of steadfastness; and as a source of the nation's hope for unity, progress, and renewal as the banner of right, freedom, and justice flutters over the world. All this strengthens our firm confidence in democracy and the shura and gives us hope for an even more brilliant future.

Your Majesty: The House of Representatives, as it received every word, sentence, and nuance from your noble speech with its ears, consciousness, and conscience, strongly believes in the country's true affiliation, ability to survive, and inevitable progress. As the developments of which many will hear are realized and their results become clear, your people's firmness and determination will entrench the goals of the great Arab Revolt and will place them and the sons of the nation in the spotlight that you have brought to shine, casting off some of the darkness created by those with tyrannical power. These sides and others before them were unable to erase this nation's history, change its faith, destroy its resolve, alter its culture, or restrict its movement thanks to its unique sons. God gave us a great favor by making your grandfathers leaders of the Hashemites and carriers of the banner of the nation's freedom and progress.

Your Majesty: The House of Representatives has followed your steps, shared your great responsibilities and aspirations, and has measured your achievements by both the efforts and potential expended and by the pressures and obstacles overcome. It believes that the achievements made in structuring and portraying the homeland and the bases of government are a source of pride, and it registers with appreciation, thanks, and gratitude the gains and the achievements made in the field of construction, as well as other areas.

The House of Representatives is eager to stress its role in the meaningful construction process, which is a reflection of your deep awareness of your people's aspirations to take another step on the path of unity, justice, freedom, and democracy through more developed laws, more disciplined criteria, more precise organs, and more accurate applications. The house promises that it will not spare any effort, will not waste any time, and will not rest until it introduces these principles to satisfy the leader, his people, and his nation.

Your Majesty: King Husayn and Jordan were destined to be the heart and the soul of the nation in terms of location, role, and leadership. Amman is the singing voice and the peaceful den for the advocates of unity. And while the Arab progressive project could not achieve the required success as result of self-restraint and relying on others' protection, the changes around us, which Jordan has absorbed and managed to deal with in an excellent manner, all stress our support for your majesty. We also stress that the nation supports you and awaits the moment when the desired picture of the nation is reshaped.

From the very beginning of the Gulf sedition, you called on the nation to settle its problems internally. Your sincere call was misinterpreted and opposed. The nation experienced the evils you have cautioned against in terms of shedding blood, emptying the coffers, seeking the protection of the foreigners, submitting to their whims, and mortgaging the nation's fate to others than its sons.

We are proud of the unity of Yemen and we rejoice at its standing fast in the face of tribulation and sedition. Yemen has now resumed construction after it paid a prohibitive price, which could have been avoided if all parties and groups had abided by the document of pledge and accord.

As for wounded Iraq, it continues to bleed. The siege has severely punished its sons. It did not spare old people or young people, infants, children, or mothers. The House of Representatives appeals to your majesty to use the international position you enjoy and your valued opinion to lift the siege from fraternal Iraq. Who has more of a right than the son of the Hashemites to come to the rescue of the Iraqi people and end their trials?

Your Majesty: The House of Representatives supports you and stands behind you with all its capabilities to substantiate your objectives of building a state of laws and institutions as a model for the aspired Arab system. The house supports your efforts to enhance the independence and equilibrium of the branches of power through what has been made available and what we hope will be made available to the judiciary, as well as the administrative and financial independence of the legislative branch. The House of Representatives, which is proud of the members of the Armed Forces, the security and intelligence departments, and the civil defense units, which are the barriers of the homeland, the shield of democracy, and the bastion of justice, calls for providing them with all means of support to maintain their preparedness, give them stability, and allow them to live a dignified and tranquil life.

Your Majesty: While voicing pride in what has been achieved, the House of Representatives places the aspirations of your loyal people in your hands. The many burdens may have prevented the achievement of some of these aspirations in the field of checking poverty, and unemployment. Let the objective of your esteemed governments be the alleviation of these tribulations and enabling people to participate in the construction process. Our experience in Jordan, perhaps, qualifies us to work for narrowing the gap in the standard of living nationwide, to attain self-sufficiency, to revive latent capabilities, to participate in building projects, and to resort to clear and well-defined scientific planning.

Your Majesty: The House of Representatives views the Constitution and the National Charter as its constants, terms of reference, and guiding landmarks. The house expects your esteemed government to adopt more specific steps in the field of equality, equal opportunity, and nondiscrimination—except on the basis of competence

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and efficiency. Any feeling of injustice must be eliminated through careful study, examination, and scrutiny, and by resorting to all the bases and guarantees that are needed.

Like you, we believe that the sound implementation of laws and the expansion of the legislature's oversight of the centralized and decentralized government agencies and public institutions, which have a relative independence, will guarantee a better life, narrow expenditures, improve the performance level, bring about a greater sense of justice, and enable all to carry out their role in their positions with more efficiency.

The leader's acumen and experience, which has always enabled Jordan to emerge safe and sound from domestic and regional crises, should be employed to prepare Jordan to move to the stage of economic self-sufficiency and efficiency in tackling the problems of the future with all the challenges that this entails.

Your Majesty's constant call for establishing a modern, impregnable Jordanian state on the basis of justice, right, equality, and equal opportunities for all citizens requires from the state an efficient approach to overcome the dilemma of unemployment and poverty. This dilemma has hit large sectors of the population and is one of the leading domestic challenges that threaten our community's security and stability. This requires the formulation of a new, balanced social and economic approach that takes into consideration reemploying the available financial resources in line with an economic and developmental perspective. Such a perspective should enjoy political, legislative, monetary, and administrative stability. In addition, there should be serious efforts to create an appropriate climate for investment.

Besides the importance of developing financial and economic legislation, particularly at this time and in relation to encouraging savings and investment and creating a climate that attracts national, Arab, and foreign capital, the administrative-executive agencies of the state institutions must enjoy stability. The institutional fabric should therefore be clear and integrated. It should also ensure the continuity and efficiency of planning and implementation.

In this context, we believe that investment—while maintaining the development momentum—is the basis for addressing the problems of unemployment and poverty. We must, however, reorganize the domestic labor market and depend on Jordanian labor in all areas of development. We must also pay special attention to vocational training and improve the quality of vocational training and recruitment.

Your Majesty: We think highly of your majesty's speech, especially the educational guidance that is in harmony with the nature and challenges of the coming phase. Safeguarding the nation's educational and cultural identity makes us adhere more to our Arab and Islamic principles of faith. We shall safeguard the honorable message upheld by your great grandfather, may God's peace and prayer be upon him, and his virtuous household. This message has been embodied in the educational philosophy that stems from our creed and the Arab nation's higher values.

We call for the cooperation of universities, religious institutions, educational institutes, cultural and youth foundations, and media agencies in shaping the Arab and Islamic personality of the citizens, with open hearts and minds to the modern age and its requirements. This should not exclude the citizens' cultural roots, Islamic message, and pan-Arab affiliation to Arabism and Islam.

Your Majesty: We take this opportunity to address our Palestinian kinsmen in the occupied West Bank, steadfast Gaza, and everywhere else to reaffirm that Jordan has not changed. Jordan has kept its Arab conscience, true allegiance, and purity in all that is good for them and the Arabs. The severing of legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank will, under no circumstances, mean that we will turn our backs on them. We shall keep our pledge to them; we shall continue to share their hopes and suffering. Our resources are at their disposal and our efforts will continue to be in their interests. We accept what they accept for themselves and we respect their choice and will in resolving their problem the way they think best.

It is appropriate, in light of the recent developments in the region, for us to remember and call attention to the fact that this country, since its establishment, has been experiencing firsthand the developments and setbacks of the Palestinian problem. This country has been on the receiving end of its shocks and agonies, and has dealt with them in a manly and honorable manner, without paying heed to profit and loss. This country has made tremendous sacrifices and efforts and jeopardized its very existence in order to fulfill its duty toward the soil of beloved Palestine and its people and to perform the role necessitated by Arab and Islamic brotherliness and the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

We should not forget that Jordan has always been threatened by the enemies, and that defending and protecting it in order to preserve it sound, strong, and proud for the coming generations is both a right and duty at the same time.

Your Majesty: As you said, Jerusalem is the jewel of peace. It is also the jewel of Islam, it is an Arab possession, and a dear part of the Palestinian soil. Fair people praise Al al-Bayt's jihad to safeguard Jerusalem—land and the holy places—since God has chosen it as the place for the ascension to heaven by the Prophet Muhammad, may God peace be upon him, and as a cradle for his Prophet Jesus Christ, may God peace be upon him.

Out of its responsibility as a representative of the Jordanian people, the House of Representatives realizes the dangers posed by relinquishing the Islamic and Christian

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holy places at this stage. This relinquishment will not be guaranteed in favor of our brothers in the Palestinian National Authority. We are not competing with them over anything. However, this could mean handing these holy places to the Israeli Religions Ministry and the Jerusalem Municipality, which is currently being run by a purely Israeli municipal committee in accordance with the Knesset decision annexing Jerusalem. We have not recognized this decision and we will not recognize it. In fact, neither the United Nations nor any of its member states has recognized it.

Your Majesty: We highly appreciate your majesty's efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, which will not be realized except after restoring the Arab territories and the sovereignty over all the occupied territories in Jordan, Syria, Palestine, and Lebanon, and in accordance with all laws, including the UN law embodied by its resolutions. The House of Representatives will discuss the draft peace treaty bill the government will submit in accordance with Article 33 of the Constitution and will make the decision it believes fit in a manner in line with our national responsibilities.

Your Majesty: Islam is the greatest fact in this world. It is God's religion which has the greatest value in our life. No force, ideology, or policy can erase it from this world. Islam is the religion of wisdom and reason, and calls for God through wise counsel. If many of the advocates of Islam have faced injustice and tyranny through ways that are not in line with the tolerance of Islam, Jordan, by its centrism, democracy, and pluralism has been a fortress for its nation under the Hashemite leadership. Democracy based on the Constitution is a grace from God. The objectives of democracy are legitimate and its means are peaceful. Our society rejects all that harms Islam and tarnishes its image whether by individuals, groups, or governments in this world. May God protect us from these evils.

Your Majesty: Our adherence to the message of the Great Arab Revolt regarding Arab unity, freedom, and dignity, and to the government system that we have accepted for ourselves based on the principles of democracy, human rights, freedom, dignity, political pluralism, moderation in ideology and policies, openness toward the people, trust, and reliance on their ability to cope with the facts of the age, to understand developments, and to judge realistically are all factors that make us stronger and more cohesive. This will also make us the subject of our brothers' admiration, who might look at our choices and try to follow our example, and consequently bring us closer to each other. Thus, we will have built this country and served this nation, a slogan you raised three decades ago.

Your Majesty: You and your faithful and noble, genuine people have exerted immense efforts for the sake of your nation, its freedom, and unity. As a result of your jihad, you have been met with aggression and ingratitude. However, God has been gracious to you during your lifetime to see your people faithful to you and trusting in all decisions you make, the hopes and aspirations you seek to fulfill, and the good efforts you exert in the interest of the nation so as to please God.

We beseech God to protect our nation and homeland, and to grant you long life, continued good health, and victory. Allah will certainly aid those who aid His cause; for verily Allah is full of strength, exalted in might, able to force His will. [Koranic verses]

May God peace and blessing be upon you.

### King on Replies to Speech From Throne

*JN3010161494 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1243 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Speech by King Husayn to the members of the Parliament, given in response to speeches by House of Representatives Speaker Sa'd Hayil al-Surur and Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi, which were in reply to the king's 22 October speech from the throne, at a meeting at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 30 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful. In my capacity as a brother to all of you, and as a man before whom all of you; namely, the three branches of government, are accountable, I would like to greet you on this occasion. I would like to give myself the opportunity to speak to you as a man speaks to his brothers, and as a father speaks to his children.

I would like to begin by extending my congratulations to the newly-elected speaker of the House of Representatives, and to express my confidence in him at the beginning of this phase in our life. Similarly, I would like to express similar sentiments to all those who have won the confidence of their brothers. I am speaking here of the elections you have held to choose deputies for various posts. I would also like to express my affection and appreciation for all those who met with bad luck during in these elections and were thus denied the chance to shoulder specific responsibilities. We have always had great confidence in you.

Thank you for the reply that you have read out in reply to the speech from the throne; that is, the House of Representatives' reply. I have examined the ideas enshrined in this reply. It seems to me that your reply reflects a certain ambiguity that renders it unable to address the ideas contained in the speech from the throne. The reason might be political pluralism, and the conflicting views held by of all of you under the circumstances and at this point in time. It goes without saying that there are points that have been underlined, including poverty and unemployment, which have won our undivided attention, because we are determined to address them under all circumstances. In this good, patient, and steadfast country, which held out along the longest line of confrontation in the past, and which

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occupies the most sensitive location at present and will continue to do so in the future, the country of the muhajirin and al-Ansar [Palestinians and Jordanians respectively], we have reached the point at which our country paid a heavy and exorbitant price without grumbling. As a matter of fact, this state of affairs has rendered us unable to distinguish between the muhajirin who fled to this country and the indigenous population of the country. The muhajirin and al-Ansar today enjoy equality in terms of the suffering experienced and the endurance demonstrated, God be praised for this. It is our strong hope that all this will be addressed in the future within the context of available means and the new dawn that will emerge, God willing.

This country is marked by balance, potential, an educated and enlightened people, genuineness, firmness, and Arabism. Nobody can contest this. Likewise, nobody can outbid us in this regard.

Being what I am, I have, at this point in time, felt the aspirations of many of our people, if not all of them, for a prosperous and secure future, comfort, and stability, in which there will be opportunities for construction, reconstruction, and progress. This is their right. Nonetheless, there is confusion with regard to charting the outlines of the course to be walked to achieve these objectives and purposes, which are in the interest of everybody you represent as the House of Representatives.

You have mentioned the kinsfolk and the brothers in Palestine. I have the honor to belong to this Hashemite family, which includes King Husayn I, who was the first evacuee, refugee, and displaced person due to his position on the Palestinian cause and the rights of the Palestinian Arab people to their national soil. [applause]

One should not boast about his duty. Some people level criticism and cast doubts here and there in the Arab world. Maybe they are excused to a great extent because throughout our long and difficult journey, we believed that right would eventually win out and appear as reality one day. We were mistaken and we remained silent over reality and what was right and did not defend them. As a result, the others continued to cover up many defects and to brand us unjustly.

This should stop now and in the future. We have learned our lesson, and we are in the process of putting together a clear picture of for everyone, using all the Hashemite documents to tell the story of this country, from the Great Arab Revolt until now. Perhaps we are late in our endeavor to highlight the truth and leave it in the hands of the future generations.

Let us come to Palestine. We wonder: Who has sacrificed more than us for Palestine, who has born more than us for Palestine, and who has shared their bread with the Palestinian people like us? Tell me about one Arab country in which Palestinians and the people of that country live as we do, where al-Muhajirin and al-Ansar live together? Can anyone remind me of any party, other than Jordan, that stepped in to save Jerusalem and the West Bank in 1948?

All along this long journey, we have endured much as a result of the mistakes of others and their miscalculations, which were not based on reality, study, and a real determination to reach a goal. Who has paid a higher price than us? We are not competing with our relatives and brothers in Palestine over Jerusalem, or over any part of the Palestinian territory. We want the relatives to regain their rights on their territory. We did not turned our backs on them. They were the ones who turned their backs on us and chose their course. Consequently, they freed us so that we could turn to our own situation, our trust, and the future and fate of this country. We are talking about the Great Arab Revolt, the Arab character, and the new resurrection of this nation. We believe that this small part of the great homeland is made large by its people, by its owners, by experience, and by the life we live. It can be an example and an axis of the new movement in the future, with God's help.

To us, consultation, freedom, democracy, respect for human rights, and political pluralism are in our hearts, our conscience, our hands, and our minds and are available to everyone.

Our task in the coming stages is to be as organized and disciplined as we can. I have talked with you more than once about too much confusion obstructing movement. God willing, disunity will be ended by enlightened opinions and with open minds. Regarding the Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty, for example, the Israeli prime minister did not need to go through anything like what we are currently experiencing, because although his party is the majority party, the major opposition party supported and endorsed the treaty that was recently signed in al-'Aqabah [as heard] before the whole world.

The Constitution should be defended and safeguarded, and its meanings should be understood. We should not invent new meanings so that we do not appear to the people as if we are contradicting ourselves. We should consider it flawless, at least until the time comes to introduce changes or amendments to it. The National Charter united us with all our trends. The rule is that the minority must respect the viewpoint of the majority. Frankly speaking, as long as we have this esteemed house, I did not deem it necessary to go to the directly to the people, who are the source of power, to ask them about their opinion. I believe that the majority of the people support the right to restore their territory and water, and to restore their right to an honorable and free life.

Brothers, forgive me, but throughout this long journey, I found that we have had one real weakness, which you all know, regarding this rivalry that does not allow us to maintain an acceptable or reasonable relationship among people—officials and nonofficials—manifested in attempts by some sides to score stands at the expense of others. I do not believe that there is anyone of my

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brothers here, regardless of his opinion, who can say that he was more concerned [about defending our rights]—and I do not say than me—but than any member of the Jordanian negotiating delegations. These negotiators contributed to the negotiating process until the very last stage very sincerely and with all competence until we reached what we have reached. None of us has the right to say this and it goes against our ethics to say such things about this team, which has worked, endured, and made sacrifices, and which has been patient, taking into consideration that God Almighty is our only supporter. We had neither any alliance of any kind nor any support. We have been and we are still being targeted to pay the price for the future of our sons, grandsons, and the coming generations, and so that we will not be able to continue to speak the truth and to defend right as we have always done throughout our long march.

The issue we are addressing here is bigger than Abu-Samir [Prime Minister al-Majali] and bigger than all of you. This man [al-Majali] served for a long time with our Armed Forces, fought on the soil of Palestine, did his best as an educator, and never abandoned public service his entire life. When we agreed to go to Madrid, just as others did, we saw that it was our duty to choose someone whom we all trust to lead our team and fulfill this duty. Al-Majali shouldered his responsibilities. Responsibility entails strain, hard work, and fatigue. It is his right, just as it is ours, to arrive at a conclusion to this phase and a beginning of a new, promising life.

As for differences among the brothers who say they like or don't like it, etc., the issue is bigger and more important. Why disparage each other? We should respect and love each other, and proceed in the development process together. Brothers, the method we follow today, or followed yesterday, is an example for those who will succeed us. God willing, we will set a good example for future generations.

Regarding Jerusalem, we shall continue to assume our responsibility toward it until our relatives and brothers the Palestinians—and the Palestinians alone—are able to assume this responsibility in our place. It is an honor and a duty that we are fulfilling. In keeping with our desire to support and back up the Palestinians, we have not created disputes with anybody. Coordination is missing; this is true. However, this is not because we did not seek coordination. We have called for coordination all along.

The brothers, here and there, have chosen their own ways. They have turned their backs on us. This is their business and their decision, and they are responsible for this decision. Anyone who wants this country to wait and to be the last to demand its rights wants, in effect, for this country to perish and not to be able to attain any of its rights in the future. This country does not deserve this fate.

We have been observing this treaty in the making minute by minute, letter by letter, word by word, sentence by sentence. It is a balanced treaty. It came, I believe, as a surprise to many skeptics who doubted the possibility of our attaining anything, even far less than this. This treaty has restored to us Jordanian sovereignty over every inch of Jordanian soil; it has defined borders for us and enabled Jordan to restore positions on its territory that were not recognized before. The treaty also restored our waters and rights. Everything in the treaty depends basically on equal rights for both parties after the return of land and sovereignty on it, in addition to other rights. It is completely balanced. Therefore, I am personally committed to each and every letter and sentence in it and to it as a whole.

I believe that we are dutybound to offer congratulations to all those who contributed to the formulation and preparation of this treaty. Rest assured, it has not come from a void. The tribulations encountered in formulating it and in attaining what we have achieved were great. This treaty also gives us back our sovereignty over our territory, and does not impose on us any foreign presence that would monitor our behavior, or our commitment to it. [applause]

Brothers, let me be frank and share with you some of my pain and sorrow that matters have reached the point of people accusing each other of heresy, when one says that there is an Abu-Lahab [Prophet Muhammad's uncle who was an atheist] among the Hashemites, and when the people are accused of being infidels or other names of the same kind—whether with respect to those of our relatives and brothers in our arena here or outside it. We remained silent and endured until now. Doesn't any person have the right to reply to this as it deserves? We even have such talk coming from pulpits in mosques. How long should we let this last? As for others in the Arab homeland, we hope that they can get even more than what we obtained. We will support and assist them. We support those who seek a comprehensive solution with all our power and capabilities.

A slander campaign has been going on all along the march. But, now, at the apex of this great and momentous achievement, this must stop. It is a pity as it is out of place. It is inconceivable that we could accept this.

Rights are for all people. Rights apply to those who respect themselves and who deserve to have all protection and defend these rights. Freedom of speech is not there so that the one enjoying it can insult others or attack them, incite them, and say things against the good conduct that religion preaches. Intellectual terrorism does not come from the government or from the state. More than one party, perhaps, must participate in it. Our press, media, our columnists—the overwhelming majority of them—do not support this country and have never been. The situation should not continue as it is.

With respect to the field of reconstruction and reorganization, let us end this stage with this great achievement and let us proceed to reorganize even the minutest details of our life. Let us stand with our heads high to build and work and assume responsibilities, and secure

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for the generations to come their right to a dignified life on their national soil. Let the heads remain high, bowing only to God. I thank you. May God's peace and blessings be upon you. [applause]

### Al-Majali Comments on Treaty's Implications

*NC3010192994 London MBC Television in Arabic 1719 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Interview with Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali by Antoine 'Awn in Amman; date not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] ['Awn] You have signed a peace treaty with Israel on behalf of Jordan which falls outside the protocol framework. Why did King Husayn not sign the treaty?

[Al-Majali] Our constitution provides for His Majesty the King to ratify the treaty after it has gone through the constitutional process. The constitutional stages require that a treaty be submitted to the Council of Ministers, where a draft bill is formulated; it is then referred to the House of Representatives, then referred to the Senate, and then to His Majesty the King. It is inadmissible for His Majesty to sign anything and then refer it to Parliament.

['Awn] Mr. Prime Minister, frankly speaking, certain people say that peace between Jordan and Israel had existed in secret and that what happened yesterday is that it became public. How would you answer these people?

[Al-Majali] My answer is that we in Jordan have different natures. We have desired peace for dozens of years. The late King 'Abdallah advocated peace but no one listened to him; and consequently, the Arabs lost because they did not listen to him. King Husayn has also counseled peace since he assumed his constitutional powers, but they did not heed him. We in Jordan have desired peace for many years; and this is not new. Even the past three years were not wasted. We discussed in detail each issue on the agenda with Israel until it reached the point where decisive decisions had to be made by both leaderships. When these decisions were made, the treaty process became clear. However, it seems that certain people forget that we have been engaged in in-depth negotiations to get as far as we have. It is not a sudden event.

['Awn] Perhaps these people mean that to view peace is one thing and to have unpublicized meetings with the Israelis another. Perhaps they may be referring to Jordan's failure to participate in the 1973 war?

[Al-Majali] In 1973, war was declared without our knowledge and there was no kind of coordination with us. However, when our Syrian brothers requested our help, we did help them and offered martyrs. We participated in the war, but we were late because we were not asked.

['Awn] But the [Jordanian] front against Israel was not opened, and Jordan only sent a token force.

[Al-Majali] Military experts know how a front should be opened and how not to boast too much. Many people make mistakes in assessing situations if they believe that military issues are measured by the length and number of fronts. This is not so. If you ask military experts, they will give you the same answer. Regarding public and secret meetings, they can be declared when issues become ready and clear. Secret negotiations are not against the homeland. We in the Arab world believe that any secret meetings are bad and treasonous. On the other hand, secret meetings are an attempt to ensure a quiet atmosphere to discuss objectively the possibility of reaching a solution. When a solution becomes possible, public meetings can occur and the media can publicize them. You know that the media cannot delve into the details of these issues and may exaggerate certain things and underestimate others, thus harming the negotiations.

['Awn] But, Mr. Prime Minister, the meetings began before the negotiations. It is well known that several meetings took place before the Madrid Conference.

['Al-Majali] I told you very frankly that such meetingswere to serve the homeland and were not against the homeland.

['Awn] But they took place at a time when there was a state of war and hostility.

[Al-Majali] The war still continues until an end is declared. [as heard]

['Awn] Mr. Prime Minister, the question being posed by every observer is why this haste in signing the peace treaty? Were you afraid of another Oslo, as you once said?

[Al-Majali] I absolutely did not say that I was afraid of another Oslo. You say I said something that I absolutely did not say. I said that Oslo was a substantial and major event in the Arab world because it was the first time Zionism and the West recognized the existence of the Palestinian people and their unity on Palestinian territory. This is extremely important. As to why the agreement took place this way, as I said, we negotiated for three years and we in the Arab world—or rather, the cordon states—we agreed that every track has its own particular nature and that if talks on a certain track make progress, it is not wrong. When the talks made progress on the Palestinian track, progress was made on the Jordanian track.

There are still serious negotiations. We have just heard President al-Asad and President Clinton say that there is progress on the Syrian track. This delights us and we hope they will make progress. But we cannot leave our issues unresolved forever, particularly as we are the party that is most eager for peace and benefit the most from peace.

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['Awn] But the Madrid formula is one of collective rather than individual peace. The Jordanian-Israeli treaty was described as independent.

[Al-Majali] This is absolutely not true. We have always called for a comprehensive solution along a united Arab course. When we worked out an agenda two years ago, we stopped, saying that we would not move forward until the others make progress too. When we were convinced that there was progress along the Palestinian track and the other tracks, we went ahead. We did not act alone. We have always kept our Arab brothers abreast of what was happening. But we did not find responsiveness on their part. We are the last to act on a solitary course.

['Awn] Let us be frank Mr. Prime Minister, with its provisions, the treaty isolates you from the Arab ranks to some extent and makes you some kind of an eastern security belt for the Hebrew state. Don't you think that this reality puts some pressure on the Arab negotiators, whose cards are not very strong at present?

[Al-Majali] What Arab states do not support peace? Except for Libya, all North Africa supports it. All Gulf states support it. What states are these?

['Awn] Some issues have not yet been settled.

[Al-Majali] Of course. Suppose they had resolved their problems and were waiting for us to resolve ours. This is a very important matter. Negotiations proceed along individual tracks. We demanded that all Arabs negotiate along one united track. This was rejected. We demanded that, and it was rejected. But we cannot delay with our problems, particularly when we have such a pressing need. The economic situation we had was tantamount to a war against our country. The other states you were talking about were not in a similar situation; they were not subjected to an economic war, you know that. We were targeted in that war. We host the largest number of refugees in the world. Our land is thirsty; we are thirsty. Therefore, we have to obtain our rights.

['Awn] Syria has objected to the treaty. But President al-Asad said that he would not physically hinder it. What does he mean by this? And what is the nature of the Jordanian-Syrian relations today after signing the treaty?

[Al-Majali] First of all, we did not hear any objections; we heard some kind of reproach. But his excellency the president was very clear in stating that he would not hinder our course and that he supports the establishment of peace in the region. He stated that he believes in a comprehensive solution and in restoring Arab rights. We are an Arab state that has regained its rights. I hope it will be a source of pride for all to see an Arab state succeeding in getting all its rights.

['Awn] How do you describe relations today?

[Al-Majali] What relations?

['Awn] With Damascus.

[Al-Majali] We have always had good relations with Syria. Differences or disagreements on a certain points does not mean that there is hostility. Absolutely not. We are brothers in history, civilization, approach, goals, and future. No disagreement can destroy these relations.

['Awn] But the brothers accuse you of planning to lease some lands, regardless of how small the area. This was described by your Syrian brother as blasphemy.

[Al-Majali] First of all, we have not leased and will not lease a single piece of land, although there is nothing shameful in talking about leasing. You lease land even in your own capital, both to states and to groups. We have not leased land to any state, not to Israel or any other state. That piece of land in the north is owned by Israelis; it is private property, in the same way there is Jordanian property within Syrian borders or Syrian property within Jordanian borders. Therefore, it is absolutely not leasing. Jordan has full sovereignty. The same thing goes for the piece of land in Wadi al-'Arabah. It is land developed by the Israelis. It stood like a thorn inside Jordanian territory. The situation was rectified and the land has been put completely under Jordanian sovereignty. But they invest in it by farming it. There are absolutely no lease contracts between us. However, we do not believe that leasing of any kind can be called blasphemy. Regaining 385.5 square km of land that had been occupied is a very significant thing.

['Awn] The principle of leasing has set a precedent. Being a strong negotiator, Israel can exert pressure through the international community on the Syrian and Palestinian negotiators to lease the Golan Heights and perhaps the West Bank. It can rely on the Jordanian precedent. Have you not given Israel an excuse to do this?

[Al-Majali] Not at all. The issue is not one of precedents. There are precedents among all states. Why do I not mention this or that precedent? First all, it is not a lease. As I have told you, it is not a lease at all. Why do you insist that it is a lease? I tell you it is not a lease. It is land that they have used and which has now come under full Jordanian sovereignty. We either had to modify the border and exchange some land or keep it Jordanian territory and allow them to exploit it for certain years. This land is under Jordanian sovereignty.

['Awn] Some view the reference to Jerusalem in the treaty as a violation of the Oslo accord. The treaty gives Jordan a role in Jerusalem until an agreement is reached on the final status of the city.

[Al-Majali] I am very astonished when even Arab thinkers ask such a question. We have not violated the Oslo accord. We have no connection with the Oslo accord at all. The Oslo accord was a result of negotiations between the PLO and Israel. The Declaration [of Principles] said negotiations on Jerusalem will take place in the final phase. We have no objection to this in any way. On the contrary, we have supported it strongly.

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We are speaking about sovereignty over the Awqaf religious sites. These were under our control from 1948 to 1967. When Israel occupied Jerusalem, the religious jurisdiction remained in our hands. We spent money on it and fully protected all Awqaf affairs in the occupied territories all those years. In 1988, when Jordan broke links [with the West Bank], the brother Palestinians asked us to continue to do this. And we continued to do this. When the Washington declaration between us and Israel was issued, it was necessary to mention this jurisdiction. If we did not mention this jurisdiction, it would have meant that we had abandoned it and left it to the Israeli occupiers. Was that what was required? Therefore, the declaration mentioned that for the time being Israel recognizes Jordan's jurisdiction over the [Islamic] holy places.

As to what will be the final solution, there will be a role for Jordan in any final solution. In other words, we will submit our viewpoint when the issue is solved in the final phase. On Jordan's behalf, I affirm to you that on the day when Israel's political sovereignty over Jerusalem ends and the brother Palestinians take over that sovereignty, we will seriously consider abandoning this jurisdiction.

['Awn] Therefore, as I understand it, there is a separation between religious jurisdiction and political jurisdiction. In fact, the Palestinians are afraid that if Jordan has religious jurisdiction and Israel says Jerusalem is eternal city, what remains for them?

[Al-Majali] Of their own accord the Palestinians have agreed to negotiate over Jerusalem in the final phase. We are not speaking about political Jerusalem; we are speaking about the holy places in Jerusalem. We have not spoken about Jerusalem. We have not taken it. On the contrary, we stand on their side. We believe Jerusalem must be their capital. They must get it in the final phase.

However, when will this take place? It is up to them. We cannot abandon the religious jurisdiction to a vacuum or to the Israelis. We have also obtained an official handwritten letter from them [Palestinians] that in regard to the Religious Appeal Court in Jerusalem, they cannot say it belongs to them because it is not in the self-rule area. They want to appeal their religious issues to us. We have no objection if they want to depend on us. However, we cannot abandon this religious jurisdiction because we will be discarding an Islamic right. We are the trustees of this right until the final negotiations take place. Why is this issue being falsified and distorted?

['Awn] Then how do you explain Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's anger?

[Al-Majali] Ask him. He claims—perhaps he claims—that we are trying to share his authority over Jerusalem. We do not want this.

['Awn] It is feared that Israel has transformed the dispute over Jerusalem from an Arab-Israeli one to an inter-Arab dispute. It has been said that the next battle, as the Palestinian president said, will be over Jerusalem. Are you not fearful about this?

[Al-Majali] Sir, regrettably all weak people try to find an excuse for their weakness and Israel is the excuse every time. Israel clearly said that it has agreed to the continuation of our religious jurisdiction at present and we are awaiting for the solution in the final stage. Does this create problems? This has nothing to do with the Oslo accord or anything else.

Whenever the Palestinian brothers want to and are able to assume authority over Jerusalem we will relinquish our authority, as we relinquished other occupied territories when they requested it. When they asked, we relinquished our authority and disengaged our links [with the West Bank].

['Awn] Jerusalem represents seven percent or more of the West Bank area. Why don't you insist on other areas of the West Bank, if there is such interest in the Islamic holy sites?

[Al-Majali] Speaking about Jerusalem, which Jerusalem are you talking about? The 1900 Jerusalem, the 1916 Jerusalem, the 1948 one, 1973, or (?1967) Jerusalem? Also where is and what is the area of East Jerusalem? We are speaking about holy places which the [Palestinian] self-rule Authority cannot reach except in the final stage.

['Awn] Do you think there is a misunderstanding or clamor about this issue?

[Al-Majali] No doubt there is misunderstanding; I believe there is misunderstanding. We are talking about Jerusalem's holy sites. Fortunately, the self-rule Authority has begun in Jericho and Jerusalem [as heard] and will, God willing, spread to other occupied territories. Of their own accord, the Palestinian brothers declared that they want to negotiate with the Israelis over Jerusalem in the final stage—that is, two years after the first stage. That is up to them. We would like them to begin negotiations tomorrow and take it [Jerusalem], and then we would give them everything we have on a silver platter.

['Awn] Some Palestinians say that Jordan, in agreement with Israel, will take back the West Bank after the 1988 divorce. Is this true?

[Al-Majali] We have been supporting the Palestinian brothers since the Madrid conference and we hope, ask, and insist that they coordinate with us on our affairs. We also ask them to reach agreement with us on matters concerning us, them, and Israel. Thus far no such coordination has taken place; but everyone likes to level charges and say we are at fault. We have always spoken out for coordination and opened our hearts to it—to serious coordination, not ad hoc coordination for specific political reasons. We believe in discussing things in depth; we genuinely want to serve the Palestinian people and leadership, because we have recognized them and

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will not reverse this recognition. This leadership is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. We agreed on this and recognized the Palestinian state, and there is a Palestinian Embassy [in Jordan].

Should we forget all this and keep saying that we want to reverse the decision on breaking our links with the West Bank? We will not reverse that decision. As for the future Jordanian-Palestinian relationship after the Palestinian brothers attain self-determination and announce their position publicly with their full freedom, we will be ready for any agreement between us. But we do not agree, nor we allow ourselves to impose any kind of agreement on the Palestinian brothers. They must be free to do so, because they have not yet reached the stage where they can say with full freedom that they want unity, confederation, federation, or any other kind of relationship. This relationship will be decided on when they attain their freedom.

['Awn] You talked about Palestinian-Jordanian relations. King Husayn rejected the principle of confederation with the Palestinians and said that he does not want to talk about this issue. The intertwined social situation of Jordan and the Palestinians dictates a certain political situation. How do you view this situation, particularly if the Palestinians obtain the right to determine their future?

[Al-Majali] If they ask us, we will consider their request with open hearts and minds. We believe that the nation will unite, but we will not impose this on others. We are against imposing anything on any party. We want them to obtain their right to self-determination. When King Husayn mentioned confederation, he meant that broaching this issue now would mean he was imposing it on the Palestinian people before they themselves decide on it. They must decide for themselves.

['Awn] How do you explain paying the salaries of the Palestinian Liberation Army [PLA] personnel deployed on Jordanian territory?

[Al-Majali] The PLA has been in Jordan for dozens of years. Jordan has provided them with all necessary care. When the time came for the Palestinian brothers to go to the occupied territory@to form the nucleus of the Palestinian force there, they did not go and their salaries were stopped. They sought the help of His Majesty King Husayn. The PLA personnel provide for 2,500 families living in Jordan. When their salaries were cut what would happen? Consider this issue in terms of unemployment. What would happen to them? His Majesty the King ordered the government to bear their support until this issue has been settled. They declared and wrote letters to the newspapers saying that this force had been dissolved. If so, where should it go? It is a military force with weapons, and each member provides for a family. What would happen to them? Should we leave them? Are we required to abandon them?

['Awn] Certain people explained the issue as buying agents.

[Al-Majali] Why should we buy them? They themselves asked for our help. We did not ask them nor did we want to interfere in their affairs. Now, if the Palestinians want to pay their salaries and want to take them there, they can do so. They did not take them. The soldiers want to be paid, but an order was issued to dissolve this force. At least we can wait for another opportunity.

['Awn] It was recently noticed that Tahir al-Masri, former speaker of the House of Representatives, who represents the moderate Palestinian element, has distanced himself from politics and from the speakership. Is Amman still eager to keep these Palestinian faces in the political structure?

[Al-Majali] He did not join the House of Representative as a Palestinian; he joined it as a Jordanian citizen, because this is a Jordanian parliament. As evidence of our faith in Arabism and unity, we do not differentiate between Jordanians and Palestinians. Brother Tahir al-Masri held the posts of speaker, prime minister, and a member of parliament, like any Jordanian. We do not differentiate because he hails from Palestine or anywhere else. He did not run in the elections because he has a bloc; and he met with its members and said that he did not want to run. He also came to me and told me that he did not want to run. He also told His Majesty the King that he did not want to run. And then he changed his mind and ran. It is up to him to run or not. How can we encourage or discourage him? It is not a matter of encouragement. There are 80 members in the House of Representatives. This is a legislative authority and we are the executive power. They elect whom they deem eligible.

['Awn] But it is well known to whom the majority in the House of Representatives are loyal.

[Al-Majali] Their loyalty is to the homeland, to Jordan. We do not accept loyalty to any party other than the homeland, Jordan. The loyalty of a deputy or anyone else should be to Jordan. We cannot tolerate loyalty to anything else. However, whether one hails from Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, or Egypt makes no difference because one's loyalty is to Jordan. A Jordanian has rights and duties and can vote and become prime minister or speaker, a member of parliament or any hold any other post. This is a legal right.

['Awn] Let us move to another issue: U.S. President Bill Clinton, in his speech before the Jordanian House of Representatives—a historic speech— emphasized the need to confront terrorism in the region. Will Jordan join this confrontation and how?

[Al-Majali] Jordan has always been opposed to terrorism of whatever sort. Jordan is against terrorism and occupation. There is a big difference between those who resist occupation and terrorism. We are against terrorism, but we support any people or person who resists occupation by reasonable and acceptable means.

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['Awn] But President Clinton, for example, says Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] is carrying out terrorist operations.

[Al-Majali] We do not have Hamas in Jordan at all. There are those who sometimes speak as Hamas' spokesmen, but there are no Hamas bases in Jordan and there is no Hamas party in Jordan, because it is a non-Jordanian party. Non-Jordanian parties are banned. There are laws and regulations which we must apply.

['Awn] Following the signing of the treaty, are you afraid that a wave of extremism will reach Jordan?

[Al-Majali] We are prepared for anything. We have enough experience. Above all, we have absolute faith in our right to live on our land in total security. Regardless of who attacks our security, we have a religious and national right to resist him. Therefore, we are fully prepared for this.

['Awn] In the economic part of the treaty there is a kind of integration with Israel. Many believe the Jordanian economy might meld into the Israeli economy. Jordan's budget is $4 billion, while Israel's budget is $70 billion. Have you taken precautions in this respect?

[Al-Majali] First of all, the Jordanian economy is not intermixed with the Israeli economy. The Israeli economy is the most protected economy in the world. It cannot be an open economy. Therefore, the allegation that the Jordanian economy depends on or is intermixed with the Israeli economy is not correct. Perhaps there is confusion regarding the economy of the occupied territories and how the occupied territories deal with us. That is a different matter. Regarding the occupied territories, we want to negotiate with the Palestinian brothers and reach a final decision regarding economic relations, taking into consideration that we have our own state and have full sovereignty over this issue. We want to assist the Palestinian brothers to the utmost to enable them to get their economy in gooH shape, so that we can deal with it as we deal with any other Arab state.

['Awn] There are several Western promises of investment, development banks, and annual aid. Do you believe these promises are genuine, especially as the precedents with others have not been encouraging?

[Al-Majali] Let me start with the word "precedents," because all rejectionists use some slogans as sacred cows. They even make thick ropes out of one hair [i.e. mountains out of molehills]. This is not right. First the brothers in Egypt have been relieved of heavy debts. Every year a certain sum of money is paid to them to support them and their armed forces. There is also economic aid for the Palestinian brothers, who have started receiving such funds. However, money is not paid into the air. There must be an administration and establishments to receive these funds. This payment [to the Palestinians] has been delayed. We are against delaying the payments, but this does not mean that payments will not be made.

['Awn] You have spoken about administration and establishments. Some Jordanians say there is some corruption in the administration and establishments in Jordan. You are preparing for a stage of reconstruction and development. Have you taken precautionary measures for this stage?

[Al-Majali] First of all, we have taken several steps toward decentralization. We have taken several steps toward adopting a basic program based on freedom, participation, and appreciation of the employee. However, an employee—any employee in any state in the world—is subject to wrong and right and subject to corruption. This is not confined to a certain state. However, if you compare Jordan to any Arab or non-Arab state, you will find that cases of real corruption are much fewer in Jordan.

Ever since I took office I have been hearing about corruption. I ask any person who has documented proof to submit it so that justice will take its course. However, in an open democratic atmosphere in which one can speak frankly, some people out of jealousy want to attack others in one way or another. They find nothing else but to accuse others of corruption.

Corruption is part of human life. However, we do not have any more corruption than others. But because we are a small country, everything is exaggerated and circulated quickly. However, so far no one has brought up an issue that has not then been referred to the courts. Any person in the country can go to court. Everybody testifies that the Jordanian judiciary system is fair and just. Those who speak about corruption and have a certain case in mind must go to the public prosecutor. It is the responsibility of the citizen to go the public prosecutor and submit to him proof of any corruption at any place, not only in the public sector but also in the private sector. However, this has not happened. The cases which have been referred to court are being examined. Cases relating to merchants and importers have gone to court. Some have been convicted and some have been acquitted.

## Paper Allays Arab 'Doubts' Over Israel Treaty

*JN3010092494 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 30 Oct 94 pp 1, 17*

[Editorial: "Jordan After the Treaty"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The large-scale international welcome of the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty is an asset which we hope will reflect positively on Jordan's security, stability, and economy. This international asset for Jordan, along with the benefits of peace Jordan is expected to reap, will help boost and enhance the negotiating positions of the other fraternal Arab states in the peace battle with Israel.

The kingdom cannot but remain in the Arab trench, in peace as well as in war. Jordan also cannot but be harmonious with the legacy of the Great Arab Revolt

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and with its steady Arab and Islamic policy it adopted right from the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We call on our brethren to deeply examine the Kingdom's history. We also call on them to renounce their reservations in supporting the kingdom's peace treaty with Israel, given that Jordan supported without reservation other Arab treaties and agreements signed with Israel. Moreover, this is exactly how Jordan's position would have been, had any other sisterly Arab state signed a treaty or agreement with Israel before Jordan. This position is based on the kingdom's confidence in the Arab brethren, and its belief in the pan-Arab links and common destiny.

We also call on our brethren to utilize the new international support for the kingdom and the positive impact of peace on Jordan's position and regional role in serving their negotiating tracks in the ongoing peace process.

To those who raise doubts that the treaty with Israel will take priority over Jordan's Arab relations, and to those who hope that it will, we say that Jordan after the treaty will have a louder voice and a stronger position in order to continue work for the implementation of the international legitimacy to terminate the occupation of all Arab territories. We also say that Jordan will always stand by its brethren to liberate their lands. The future will be the judge.

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## Al-Hirawi Interviewed on Regional Situation

### Views Clinton Tour, Israel Pullout

*NC2910160794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[Report on "exclusive" interview with President Ilyas al-Hirawi by Mustafa Najib, chairman of the board of directors and chief editor of MENA, in Lebanon; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beirut, 29 Oct (MENA)—Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi has praised Egypt's and President Husni Mubarak's role in consolidating the process of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and Lebanon's stand on the peace talks to implement Security Council Resolution 425, which stipulates Israel's withdrawal from south Lebanon and the Western al-Biqa'.

He asserted Lebanon's commitment to the peace process in order to implement Resolution 425 and secure Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Lebanese territories. He described his relations with President Husni Mubarak as excellent and affirmed that contacts and consultations are continuing between them to coordinate on achieving a comprehensive and just peace in the region and recovering the occupied land in southern Lebanon.

The Lebanese president made these remarks in an exclusive interview with Mustafa Najib, chairman of the board of directors and chief editor of the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY [MENA], who is currently visiting Lebanon.

He lauded the efforts of President Mubarak and senior Egyptian officials to help Lebanon regain its occupied land.

He referred in this regard to statements by Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, in which al-Baz demanded an immediate and complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from south Lebanon and the Golan in implementation of Security Council resolutions. Al-Hirawi noted that Egypt was among the first countries to support Lebanon in achieving its independence and joining the Arab League in 1945.

On his assessment of the outcome of U.S. President Bill Clinton's tour of the Middle East, which he concluded yesterday, and his talks in Damascus, al-Hirawi said this tour confirmed that "there can be no peace in the region without Syria and Lebanon."

However, he expressed regret that President Clinton and other U.S. officials avoided visiting his country on security pretexts. He said these excuses do not reflect the true situation in Lebanon, which enjoys security, stability, and discipline thanks to the control of the army and security forces over Lebanese territory.

Nevertheless he praised Clinton's statements during his tour in which he asserted the U.S. Administration's commitment to the peace process, the need to establish a comprehensive peace in the region, and said that the conclusion of peace between Syria and Israel constitutes the basis for a final and comprehensive peace in the region. But al-Hirawi regretted that Resolution 425 was not mentioned in the U.S. President's statements at a time when he is raising the issue of terrorism and trying to link it with national resistance.

Al-Hirawi stressed that the Lebanese resistance is "a Lebanese affair" and that it means the defense of ourselves and our land until all territories have been liberated from occupation.

He praised Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's stance during his talks with Clinton in Damascus and his demand for a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and south Lebanon. He said that President al-Asad is not prepared to conclude any peace deal before reaching agreement with Israel on all the minute details of the peace process.

Commenting on Lebanon's stand on the Middle East multilateral committee meetings, the Lebanese president reiterated his country's refusal to participate in these meetings before progress is made on the Lebanese-Israeli track of the peace talks.

He said that despite the importance of some of these meetings and Lebanon's need to benefit from these negotiations, we are still adamant in our refusal to participate in them until there is progress in the peace talks and the implementation of Resolution 425.

He expressed regret that the twelve rounds of the bilateral Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington over the three years since the Madrid peace conference began have not achieved the necessary progress toward establishing peace and reaching a formula for agreement on the Lebanese-Israeli track.

He said that in light of this situation, Lebanon will not participate in the Middle Eastern countries' economic conference due to begin in Casablanca tomorrow, Sunday.

Commenting on stability in Lebanon, al-Hirawi said: I challenge you to name any area in Lebanon outside of legitimate and full security control, except the occupied border strip.

He added that while there is not a single Lebanese political detainee in Lebanese prisons, Israel is trying to make an issue of terrorism in Arab countries while it is holding hundreds of political detainees in Israeli jails.

He affirmed that the civil war in Lebanon has ended for good and that the Lebanese people are now pursuing coexistence and are racing against time to rebuild their country and make up for the past.

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He explained that the Lebanese Government is seeking to eliminate poverty under a 10-year development plan that allocates $ 15 billion for reconstruction and the building of the infrastructure. The plan, he added, has actually begun to be implemented with a number of projects such fields as electricity, water, sewage, building hospitals, schools, and universities, and promoting education. He noted that the government is working hard to curb unemployment.

He said the agreement with Syria on sharing the Orontes River provides enough water to irrigate hundreds of hectares of land so that we can set up large agricultural projects, especially in the al-Biqa' area.

He expressed hopes that the Arab countries will bear their responsibility as part of the pan-Arab commitment to rebuild Lebanon. He said the activity of the Gulf states' Arab- international fund, which was supposed to provide Lebanon with $2 billion after the al-Ta'if Accord, had stopped since the Gulf war. He added that Lebanon has so far gotten nothing but a number of loans from some Arab financial funds.

### Says Ready To Set Up Joint Body

*NC2910183694 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi has reasserted Lebanon's commitment to the peace process, whereby UN Security Council Resolution 425 will be implemented and Israel withdraw from all Lebanese territories.

In an interview with MENA, he said Lebanon is ready to accept a gesture by the Israeli prime minister and immediately embark on forming a Lebanese-Israeli joint political-military committee to negotiate a timetable for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory up to the international border within six months.

Al-Hirawi added: I pledge that not one bullet will be fired during this period if Israel commits itself to withdraw when the period ends, according to an agreed-upon timetable.

He remarked that Lebanon will not step out of line with the Arab family and will not begin a separate process of normalizing relations with Israel.

Asked to evaluate the results of U.S. President Bill Clinton's Middle East tour and his talks in Syria, al-Hirawi noted that Clinton's visit demonstrated that there can be no regional peace without Lebanon and Syria. He pointed out that President Clinton's statements demonstrated the U.S. Administration's commitment to the peace operation and the need to establish a comprehensive regional peace.

President al-Hirawi regretted that Clinton made no reference to Resolution 425 in his statements, even though he kept raising the issue of terrorism and tried to draw a parallel between it and national resistance.

He announced that resistance is a purely Lebanese affair and signifies self-defense and the defense of territory until all the territories are liberated from occupation.

He added that President Clinton's justification for not visiting Lebanon does not mirror the reality in the country, which is currently enjoying security, stability, and discipline.

President al-Hirawi saluted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's stance and his emphasis that Israel must fully withdraw from the Golan Heights and south Lebanon, asserting that the Syrian president is not ready to sign a full peace agreement before all the fine details are hammered out.

Al-Hirawi reiterated Lebanon's refusal to participate in the multinational committees before progress is made on the Lebanese- Israeli bilateral negotiating track.

Al-Hirawi asserted that the Lebanese Government is seeking to end poverty through a 10-year economic development plan that will require $15 billion to be spent on reconstruction and a new infrastructure.

He said that the Government wants to limit unemployment. On another issue, he pointed out that the state has succeeded in decisively eradicating all narcotic drugs.

President al-Hirawi voiced hope that the Arab countries will shoulder their responsibilities in the context of their pan-Arab commitment to rebuild Lebanon.

### Buwayz: Peace Should Be Between Peoples, Not Regimes

*NC3010061194 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz said that real peace is the one that involves peoples and is not the one made by regimes. He added that peace can be attained only through the return of rights to their owners.

In a press interview published today, Buwayz said that Lebanon is not participating in the multilateral negotiations because it is trying to avoid normalization and we do not want to pay to Israel the price of rights we have not obtained.

Stressing the importance of coordination with Syria, he said that peace in the region will take Lebanon out of the Arab-Israeli conflict arena and enable it to enter the stage of stability.

### Hizballah's al-Tufayli Warns Against Israeli Treaty

*NC2910083094 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] In Beirut, Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, leader of Hizballah's hardline wing, has stated that, if Lebanon signs a peace treaty with Israel, it would

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only take a handful of determined mujahidin to defy this treaty. He described Arab leaders who have signed peace agreements with Israel as traitors.

### Hizballah Official Views Clinton's 'Show' Visit

*NC2910091394 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Shaykh Na'im Qasim has described the U.S. President's tour of the region as a show visit to provide cover for the Jordanian-Israeli agreement and encourage the rest of the Arabs to jump on the bandwagon of settlement. He said President al-Asad managed to take advantage of the visit to reaffirm Syria's unchanging principles, which reject Israel's proposals. Qasim ruled out any progress on the Syrian-Israeli negotiating track.

## Clashes Continue With Israeli Troops in South

### 'Wide-Scale' Hizballah Attacks

*NC2910084894 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0658 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear listeners: We received a word a short while ago that groups from the Islamic Resistance have since 0830 today [0630 GMT] been launching a large-scale attack against enemy positions in al-Tuhrah, al-Dabshah, 'Ali al-Tahir, and al-Qal'ah. Fierce clashes are now taking place between the heroes of the Islamic Resistance and the soldiers manning these positions. We will report any further news as soon as we receive it.

[Paris AFP in English in a related Beirut-datelined report at 0818 GMT on 29 October adds the following:

["Pro-Iranian Hizballah on Saturday [29 October] launched a wide-scale attack on Israeli troops and their proxy militiamen in Israel's self-proclaimed security zone in south Lebanon.

["A Hizballah spokesman told AFP that guerrillas attacked simultaneously with machine guns and anti-tank rockets five positions held by the "Israeli enemy and its agents."

["'Our fighters stormed their position at al-Dabshah,' on the edge of the security zone, 'killed and wounded those who were inside, and raised Hizballah flags,' he added.

["An official of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) confirmed that a big attack took place, but denied that one position fell to the Hizballah or that Israeli soldiers or militiamen were hurt.

["Israeli helicopters were patrolling the region, an AFP correspondent reported.

["Two shells also hit Marj 'Uyun, where the Israeli and SLA headquarters are located, he added."]

### Israeli Soldier Killed by Bomb

*NC2910111194 Paris AFP in English 1105 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Marj 'Uyun, Lebanon, Oct 29 (AFP)—An Israeli soldier was killed and six others wounded in a bomb attack by Hizballah guerrillas in south Lebanon on Saturday [29 October], security sources said.

The bomb was set off as the troops arrived at a position in the Israeli-controlled "security zone" which had been captured then abandoned by the guerrillas.

### IDF Denies Post Seized

*TA2910132194 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] At noon today, terrorists once again fired mortars and rockets in the 'Ali al-Tahir ridge in the eastern sector of the security zone, near al-Nabatiyah. Our correspondent Yo'av Aviv reports that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the SLA [South Lebanese Army] returned the fire. This was the second attack today. [passage omitted]

The IDF spokesman denied the Hizballah report that its men have seized an IDF position in the Beaufort area and hoisted their flags there. [passage omitted]

### IDF Soldier Killed, 2 Wounded

*TA2910162694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier, Staff Sergeant Almog Klein from Moshav Shafir in the south, was killed this morning in a terrorist attack in south Lebanon. Two other soldiers were injured in another attack and were evacuated for treatment.

Our correspondents Karmela Menashe and Yo'av Aviv report that several IDF and SLA [South Lebanese Army] posts came under mortar, RPG, and automatic weapon fire this morning in the 'Ali-al-Tahir ridge and the Beaufort area in the eastern sector of south Lebanon. The terrorists also attempted to seize an IDF post, failed, fled, and left behind equipment. In the exchange of fire during the attack the two soldiers were lightly injured.

An hour later, Staff Sergeant Almog was killed by mortars fired by the terrorists. The fire exchanges in the Beaufort area lasted several hours and spread to the al-Tayyibah sector. The IDF and the SLA fired back with artillery, tanks, and helicopter gunships at the sources of the fire. Four residents from the village of al-Tayyibah in the security zone were injured by the terrorists' fire and taken to hospital in Marj 'Uyun.

### 'Resistance' Reportedly Uses SA-7's

*NC2910203694 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] One day after U.S. President Bill Clinton's regional tour ended, south Lebanon turned

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into an arena of ferocious military operations, extending over wide areas and resulting in the deaths or wounding of 16 people, including, according to security sources, one Israeli soldier dead and six wounded.

The Israeli army confirmed the death of one of its troops this evening and the slight wounding of two others.

REUTER cites Lahd forces [South Lebanese Army] sources as saying that one Israeli soldier was killed and four others were injured in fierce fighting with the Lebanese resistance forces.

A noteworthy development today was the introduction of a new element in the confrontation, namely the SA-7 rocket. The resistance fired two such rockets. The Israelis used phosphorous bombs.

Military operations began in the morning and lasted until this afternoon. The Israeli al-Dabshah position and the Lahd position in Duhur al-'Ayshiyah in the central part of the south were targets of Katyusha rockets.

Israel retaliated with raids on the Lebanese Army's deserted barracks and the al-Khawarinah neighborhood in al-Nabatiyah. Together with Lahd's forces, the Israelis shelled al-Nabatiyah, al- Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, the outskirts of Kafr Rumman, Kafr Tibnit, the road between Habbush and 'Arab Salim, Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, and Zawtar al-Gharbiyah.

### PFLP Claims Katyusha Attacks

*NC3010072594 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] According to a security source in Marj 'Uyun, Katyusha rockets and mortar shells were fired at the Israeli position in al-Dabshah and the South Lebanese Army position in Duhur al-'Ayshiyah in the eastern sector of the border strip yesterday afternoon.

The George Habash-led Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] claimed responsibility for the Duhur al-'Ayshiyah operation. A PFLP spokesman in Beirut said the attack was a response to the betrayal of the Palestinian people by King Husayn and 'Arafat. The spokesman said all members of the Israeli patrol [as heard] were killed, and an Israeli vehicle was destroyed. Israel radio admitted that a soldier was killed and two others were injured in south Lebanon.

Hizballah did not announce responsibility for these attacks, and a spokesman for the party told AFP: We did not launch the last two attacks.

Hizballah yesterday announced its responsibility for the first five operations, in which an Israeli soldier was killed and six others were wounded. Four Lebanese civilians were also injured in the border strip as a result of Katyusha fire. A Hizballah member and four civilians were injured in the Israeli shelling which came in retaliation to these attacks and targeted regions in Iqlim al-Tuffah and al-Nabatiyah heights.

### Islamic Resistance Claims 1 Killed

*NC3010172394 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] A group of the Islamic Resistance this afternoon ambushed a foot patrol belonging to the agent [South Lebanese Army—SLA] militia along the road to the Taw'amat Niha position. The men of the Resistance engaged the patrol with machine guns and rocket weapons for 15 minutes.

This was followed by a violent artillery exchange between the occupation and agent militia on one side and the Islamic Resistance on the other. Some 30 shells landed on the hills of Jabbur, Abu Rashid, al-Tall al-Sultani, and 'Ayn al-Tinah. Scores of shells landed on the SLA's Taw'amat position.

According to sources in the Islamic Resistance, the attacking group succeeded in killing an agent and wounding another.

### 'Resistance' Claims Israeli Killed

*NC3010175094 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Escalation continued in the south today. The Resistance says that it attacked Tallat al-Dabshah with machine guns and rockets at 1530 today. A statement by the Islamic Resistance said that a group detonated an explosive device along the road to Rshaf in the central sector [of the security strip], wounding four soldiers of Lahd's [South Lebanese Army—SLA] forces, including the patrol commander.

The statement added that one of the Resistance groups directed sniper fire at an Israeli patrol along the Taw'amat Niha road this morning, killing an Israeli soldier.

### 'Large-Scale' Israeli Attacks Reported

*NC3010201894 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Great tension prevails in the areas adjacent to the occupied border strip in the western, central, and eastern sectors, and in the al-Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas in the wake of large-scale Israeli acts of aggression against dozens of villages in these areas.

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## Results of Clinton-al-Asad Summit Talks Reviewed

### Papers Hail Results

*NC2810121994 Paris AFP in English 1141 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[By Jacques Lhuillery]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Damascus, Oct 28 (AFP)—U.S. President Bill Clinton's recognition of Syria's pivotal role in the search for Middle East peace was music to the ears of President Hafiz al-Asad.

"We cannot maintain peace unless there is peace between Israel and Syria," Clinton said on Thursday [27 October] at the end of the first visit to Damascus by a U.S. president for 20 years.

"I believe he (al-Asad) wants peace and I believe he will achieve it," he said after a three-hour meeting with his Syrian counterpart.

Damascus newspapers on Friday pointed out the gains for Syria. The summit showed that "it is impossible to overlook the role of Syria" in the region, the official daily AL-THAWRAH said.

In an address to the Israeli parliament, Clinton tried in Jerusalem to reassure the Jewish state that Syria was serious in its quest for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

Al-Asad, for his part, stuck to his terms for a peace deal with Israel and insisted on a full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land.

"Syria is ready to abide by the objective needs of peace to establish normal ties of peace with Israel in exchange for a total withdrawal from the Golan" and south Lebanon, he said.

Dissecting the comments made at a joint press conference, Clinton later said that al-Asad "plainly went beyond anything he said before."

"In the Middle East, every phrase has certain weight and a certain significance, and he had, really had, spent a lot of time thinking about what exactly he wanted to say," the U.S. President explained.

Although Israeli officials pointed out there was no breakthrough as such, Clinton promised on his departure from Israel on Friday that more progress was in the pipeline.

Damascus, at the risk of isolation, has stuck to its guns for an overall Arab-Israeli settlement based on the principle of land-for- peace rather than the separate deals struck by Jordan and the Palestinians.

But Clinton said Damascus had a key role to play and he reaffirmed his support for the Syrian stand that peace must be based on the UN land-for peace resolutions, 242 and 338, to the pleasure of the Syrian leader.

On one score, however, the Syrian leg of his Middle East tour failed to live up to the hopes of Clinton, who was visiting a country which the U.S. State Department accuses of sponsoring terrorism.

Al-Asad defended his country against the charges, which he said were linked to the Arab-Israeli conflict at large.

And Clinton said the Syrian president had in their meeting stressed his opposition to the killing of innocent civilians. But in Israel, he regretted al-Asad had not condemned terrorism outright before the international press.

But Syria, which already made diplomatic gains through its contribution to the U.S.-led military campaign to drive Iraq out of Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf War, knows that it has several cards to play in the region.

It has 35,000 troops in neighbouring Lebanon and controls supply routes for guerrillas fighting Israel's occupation of a border strip in the south of the country, notably the Iranian-backed Hizbollah.

Damascus also hosts radical Palestinian groups opposed not only to the PLO-Israel autonomy deal but the whole Middle East peace process.

### Papers Underline Nation's Role

*JN2910095194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] AL-THAWRAH discusses in an editorial the summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton. The paper says: All assessments of the Damascus summit agree that the summit will mark a qualitative improvement in the U.S. position, which is moving to new positions. These assessments feel the summit showed a clear and daring proximity to the Syrian view of the majority of elements of the conflict in the region and the bases and conditions for the solution.

AL-THAWRAH says President Clinton's visit to Damascus to announce from there his commitment to the comprehensive peace and its achievement on the basis of the Syrian principles—the full withdrawal from the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon, the land- for-peace formula, and the implementation of the international resolutions, constitutes a real qualitative development in the U.S. position.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying: The Damascus summit is a remarkable event in the history of the conflict which will lead to a change in the international position on the peace process. This development would not have been possible without President al-Asad and his ability to handle events with such extraordinary efficency. The summit also displays another change in the view of the United States and the world of Syria and Syria's role in the region, a role which must be established regionally and which must be dealt with on that

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basis. President Clinton may have been hinting that when he underlined Syria's key role in the region to reaffirm that Syria represents a role and an equation, and not just a state in the region. This is what is meant by the summit and what will be entrenched by its results.

In its editorial, TISHRIN wonders: Syria has committed itself. Where is Israel's commitment?

The paper says: Political observers all over the world continue to analyze the outcome of the Syrian-U.S. summit in Damascus, noting its importance and President al-Asad's statement that Syria is prepared to commit itself to the objective requirements of peace in return for Israel's full withdrawal from the occupied territories in implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, and 425.

TISHRIN notes that what President Clinton has said in Damascus on Syria's sincere desire to establish peace was repeated by him in Israel. The U.S. President would not have stressed this point if he was not really convinced that Syria is indeed working for peace.

TISHRIN stresses that after the summit, no one can cast doubts on Syria's pursuit of peace. In return, the world has the right to ask: If Syria has publicly stated its readiness to accept the complete peace with all its requirements, has Israel taken a similar step and pledged to make a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon? The answer is that the Israeli rulers have not yet spoken of such a commitment. Instead, they continue to speak of withdrawal in stages.

TISHRIN concludes: Political observers and analysts agree that the ball is now in the Israeli court after the Syrian-U.S. summit. Syria has publicly voiced its position on the requirements of peace and Israel must pledge to make a full withdrawal if it really wants peace.

### Commentary: Nation Plays 'Key Role'

*JN2910150894 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gentlemen: The results of the summit meeting between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Bill Clinton have received unparalleled attention from political circles and the international media.

One of the most prominent of the facts underlined by this summit is Syria's important role in the security and stability of the region, and its key role in the search for a just and comprehensive peace in the region. This was what President Clinton emphasized when he expressed his full confidence in Syria's position, which sincerely seeks just and comprehensive peace that ensures security and stability in the region and that meets the requirements of peace and the principles of the peace process, based on the resolutions of international legitimacy.

In terms of results, all observers have emphasized that the summit should be considered a historic event that will help entrench Syrian-U.S. relations in the interest of the two countries and peoples, and correct the march of the peace process after the Israeli deception and procrastination were about to destroy this process and waste a historic opportunity to realize just and comprehensive peace in the region.

President Clinton's reiteration of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace as the basis of the solution that should be just and comprehensive was a clear expression of the soundness of the Syrian position, which adheres to just and comprehensive peace and the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy. This reiteration also placed Israel in a narrow corner, forcing it to face the facts of peace that it has tried to evade for the last three years of the peace process.

The U.S. awareness of the importance of Syria and its key role emphasizes the international position supporting Syria's conception, its national and pan-Arab constants, and its response to international legitimacy, which says peace should be just and comprehensive.

There will be no justice without the full return of the land and rights. Peace, as the whole world realizes, will be incomplete and shaky without Syria. The cycle of peace [18-second break in transmission] its basic constants, foremost of which is the full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, south Lebanon, and the western al-Biqa'. This is peace that ensures rights, justice, and comprehensiveness, as well as the dignity of all parties and their interests—it cannot be established at the expense of any party.

Undoubtedly, the Damascus summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton has come as an manifestation of progress in the U.S. efforts to advance the peace march. Though the summit in itself is important, this historic event emphasizes the responsibility and importance of achieving the real vital objective. The results of this summit should not be allowed to be circumvented by Israel, nor should Israel be allowed to evade the facts entrenched by this summit, and thus shatter the great hopes that have been pinned to it. The world welcomed the summit and its results. We must embark on efforts to translate these results into substantial facts and translate all the talk about just and comprehensive peace into reality based on the principles of the peace process, the foremost of which is the return of the situation to its 4 July 1967 status, and the withdrawal from south Lebanon. This is the only thing that can pave the way for just and comprehensive peace and lead to security and stability in the region, which will continue to be exposed to blackmail and explosion as long as the Israeli occupation continues.

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### Radio Emphasizes Peace, Demands

*JN2810151894 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1235 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gentlemen: The talks that were held during the Syrian-U.S. summit between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Bill Clinton have proven that Syria's role in the region's stability and security is extremely important. The U.S. President noted that President Hafiz al-Asad is committed to achieving peace, and that, undoubtedly, he defends the rights and interests of his people and country. He said: I believe that he wants peace, and I believe that we will achieve it.

While confidently continuing its policy, which is very concerned about achieving a just and comprehensive peace, Syria proceeds from the resolutions of international legitimacy that stipulated the termination of the Israeli occupation, the withdrawal of the Israeli forces to the 4 June 1967 borderlines, and Israel's full withdrawal from southern Lebanon. The U.S. initiative, which was based on the land-for-peace principle, has come to confirm that it would be impossible to achieve peace without the full Israeli withdrawal. There is no doubt that Syria's adherence to the constants of a just and comprehensive solution proves anew Syria's seriousness about making peace, and its response to its requirements and to a true implementation of all aspects of Resolutions 242, 338, and 425. Based on this, peace is not just talk, but a practice and a policy that must guarantee rights to land, dignity, security, and sovereignty to achieve the peace of the brave, peace which is based on justice and equality. Everyone knows that this can only be achieved through Israel's response to the efforts that have been exerted to actually implement the resolutions of international legitimacy. This can also be achieved through a clear Israeli commitment to withdrawal from the Golan and southern Lebanon, by terminating all traces of occupation in terms of settlers and settlements, and by stopping the use of security and non-security pretexts, the illusions of partial solutions, phased settlements, and separate deals.

Facts, developments, and events have confirmed the soundness of the Syrian position. They have also proven that it would be impossible to achieve peace in the region without Syria or by ignoring its role. While the world recognizes Syria's credibility and firm stand toward the pillars of a just and comprehensive peace, Syria stresses that the successful peace will be peace that guarantees all sides' interests and not the interests of one party at the expense of the other. It must be impermissible to reward the occupier for his occupation. Moreover, no one should be allowed, and no one has the right, to tamper with the future of the land, to give up even one inch of it, or to relinquish it, because this would undermine national and pan-Arab dignity, and constitute a violation of the bases of the peace process and a disregard for the interests of all sides, particularly the will of international legitimacy to achieve a just and comprehensive peace.

Since the beginning of the peace process, Syria has been committed to the pillars of a just and comprehensive peace. It has positively and constructively contributed to making peace. Syria has exerted persistent efforts to achieve a true and successful peace. It has no doubt that its stand and will are strong, and that it will continue to firmly defend its rights and land, armed with the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the principles, charters, and laws of justice and right, which call for the impermissibility of continuing the occupation of others' land, and for terminating the occupation of these territories in full, especially since they were occupied through aggression and military force. There will be no alternative to restoring them to their Arab owners, Syrians, Lebanese, and Arabs in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, the strong peace of the brave in the region.

It has become clear that adhering to what is essential to reactivate the peace process and to push it forward should assure the success of the exerted international political efforts, particularly the U.S. efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace as stipulated by the resolutions of international legitimacy.

### Papers Review Results

*JN3010101194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] In an editorial today, AL-BA'TH says: No observer of the peace process can now make any interpretations or analysis that do not agree with the facts and realities stressed by the Damascus summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton.

Anyone who observed the summit must have had feelings of pride and glory if he was an Arab, and respect and appreciation for Syria's position if he was foreign.

AL-BA'TH notes that leader al-Asad was as he has always been: big and great in his own person, in the glory and pride he represents, and in his comprehensive outlook and wise policy which protects Arab rights, preserves dignity, adheres to principles, and does not relinquish a grain of soil. The world agreed on this view from the moment it began to acquaint itself with the systematic policy of the splendid leader and observe his positions and precise control of the events that directly influence this region.

The paper adds: The five-hour summit was the focus of unprecedented world attention. The peace process, which preoccupied the world for several years, was hinging, and still hinges, on one word from the great leader of the nation. His word is the decisive and key

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one. It is the word that rectified a course, which Israel, and those who relinquished rights, were for ever trying to abuse.

TISHRIN says in an editorial: Although the world, and specially the United States, has praised the outcome of the Syrian-U.S. summit and Syria's positions on the establishment of the just and genuine peace that can uproot all causes for the crisis, Israel started a deliberate campaign to distort Syria's positions and cast doubts on the outcome of the summit and sought to ruin the good atmosphere created in the Syrian-U.S. relations. Israel, instead, should have taken advantage of the positive climate provided by the summit to strengthen the opportunities for achieving the just and comprehensive peace.

The paper notes that Israel ignored the sincere call for peace which was issued by the summit. Instead, it repeated the spiteful, rancorous, and fabricated accusations against Syria on terrorism and Syria's refusal to raise the level of the negotiations, and began to raise the pronouncement on the Syrian threat that is coming from the north.

TISHRIN says: The objective of this campaign is clear. It aims at circumventing the results of the Damascus summit and to pressure Washington to abandon the role of the fair and unbiased partner and stop demanding a comprehensive settlement on the basis of the UN resolutions and the land-for-peace formula.

TISHRIN concludes by saying: The Damascus summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton confirmed the soundness of the Syrian position, which is based on the premise that peace cannot be achieved under the continued aggression and threats of aggression and expansion.

The paper highlights the U.S. Administration's readiness to exercise a constructive role to end the various forms of tension. This meeting also opened new horizons to improve bilateral ties between Damascus and Washington and strengthened the Syrian central role in guaranteeing security, stability, and peace in the region.

AL-THAWRAH says: The proceedings and results of the Damascus summit reflected identical Syrian and U.S. views on the issues and subjects discussed, particularly as regards the need to achieve the comprehensive peace on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the land-for-peace formula, and that the solution must be just in order to be permanent and stable. The summit was a triumph for the legitimacy and justness of the Arab demand to liberate the land and regain the rights. It was also a triumph for the resolutions of international legitimacy and adjusted the course of the political process.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The entire nation was present at the summit. As always, President al-Asad was the firm, faithful defender of the homeland's cause and the Arab sacred rights. He is the master of the situation, the arbitrator, the captain of the ship, and the competent leader who can fight the battles of (?the nation) with an iron determination and calm and balanced diplomacy.

The paper stresses that the peace which Syria seeks is the just, honorable, and balanced peace, which returns rights and does not keep a grain of soil occupied; a peace that would guarantee security and dignity for all and move the region from the climate of war to stability; the peace of the brave that involves no capitulation or bargaining and that was acknowledged by the U.S. Administration, which stressed the need to adopt it as the only path to achieve the comprehensive and genuine peace.

### Radio: Ex-U.S. Official Criticizes Treaties

*JN2910071394 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0515 GMT 29 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington—Richard Murphy, a former U.S. assistant secretary of state, has said that President Hafiz al-Asad will not make the same mistake Egypt and Jordan have made; namely, to sign peace treaties first and implement their conditions later.

In an interview yesterday, Murphy added that President Hafiz al-Asad will study the clauses of any peace treaty very thoroughly and accurately to know its content and the possibility of implementing it before he signs it, and not vice versa.

Murphy said that President Hafiz al-Asad has always been convinced that the peace treaties which the Arabs signed separately with Israel would have been in the interest of the Arabs had they been achieved within the context of the comprehensive solution.

### Damascus Radio Reports Amman Anti-Treaty Sermons

*JN2810170894 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman—In their sermons in Amman today, mosque imams criticized the Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty and warned against the dangers it poses to national sovereignty and to the Jordanian people. In their sermons, the speakers said that this treaty shackles Jordan with security chains with Israel and constitutes an attack on national sovereignty.

In his sermon in a mosque in al-Wihdat, Deputy Hamzah Mansur said that the treaty has relinquished Jordanian territory in the name of leasing. He added that it has also relinquished waters. He noted that the treaty also bans Jordan from establishing any alliance, coalition, unity, or solidarity with another Arab state.

Meanwhile, former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has revealed several secret contacts he held with Jordan's King Husayn.

Shamir, who was speaking to Israeli Television, did not explain the time or place of these secret contacts, which were held during his term in office.

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## Government Frees Jordanian 'Political Prisoners'

*NC3110110694 Paris AFP in English 1012 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman, Oct 31 (AFP)—Syria has released the last of five Jordanian political prisoners who were jailed 23 years ago after a power struggle with President Hafiz al-Asad, a Jordanian deputy said Monday [31 October].

Dhafi Jumay'ani, who is in his seventies and in poor health, arrived in Amman late Sunday hours after he was released from prison as a result of mediation by Jordan's King Husayn, MP Samir Habashnah told AFP.

Syria last year freed four of Jumay'ani's comrades in the Pan-Arab Ba'th Party leadership—Hasan Khatib, Mujalli Nasrawin, Yusuf Burji and Hakim al-Fayiz—who had been jailed for more than 22 years. The Ba'th is Syria's ruling party.

Until his arrest on June 25, 1971, Jumay'ani had been deputy general commander of Palestine Liberation Organization forces. Before entering political life, he had served as a high-ranking officer in the Jordanian army.

But ten Jordanians, mainly students who were rounded up in the early 1980s, are still imprisoned in Syria. Furthermore, there is Hatim Zurayqat, incarcerated in 1978 and Sa'id Hatamlah, in detention since 1984.

## General's Alleged Secret Talks With Israel Denied

*JN3010073794 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[Report by Thana' al-Imam in Damascus]

[FBIS Translated Text] Damascus has denied a report by the Israeli newspaper HA'ARETZ on secret meetings between Syrian and Israeli officers in European capitals and sometimes on Lebanese territory. According to the paper, Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah has represented the Syrian side during the talks which have been going on for over a year.

The denial came in a statement to Monte Carlo by Dr. Ghassan Tayyarah, member of the People's Assembly and president of the Syrian engineers association, who was very close to the late General 'Adnan Tayyarah.

[Begin Tayyarah recording] What was broadcast by Israel and quoted in certain newspapers that the late Maj. Gen. 'Adnan Tayyarah had met with some Israeli officers is groundless because the late general never left Syria after 1974 except for Geneva where he participated in the Geneva agreements on the disengagement of forces. Later, he left Syria with the Syrian delegation to the international conference in Madrid in 1992. He was then stricken with liver cancer. He used to travel to London for treatment, especially chemotherapy, which is known to be a very difficult treatment, affecting a person's psychology. The general used to come to Syria after the treatment. He died several months ago.

Therefore, General Tayyarah never met with any Jewish officers. By broadcasting this report, using the name of a dead Syrian officer, the Israeli radio gives sufficient proof that its report is untrue. [end recording]

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## India

### Bhatia Urges UN To Focus on 'New World Order'

*BK2810124194 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India has urged the United Nations to focus on establishing a new world order characterized by true equity, peace, and prosperity for all people and nations. Addressing the UN General Assembly, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. R.L. Bhatia, said despite the cold war ending, a perception continues that somehow balance of power considerations have an impact on the decision making at the world body. It is regrettable he said that such thinking not only exists, but continues to influence the activities of the international community.

Participating in a discussion, the Indian ambassador, Mr. T.P. Srinivasan, asked Pakistan to demonstrate its sincerity in finding a peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue by eschewing from sponsoring terrorism in the state and returning to the negotiating table for a bilateral dialogue.

### Congress-I Manifesto Issued for State Assembly Polls

*BK3010162194 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Congress-I has lashed out at the opposition parties, the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] in particular, for arousing disruptive passions for narrow electoral gains. The central manifesto of the party released for the forthcoming [state] assembly polls said the BJP had pegged its hopes for the future on the Ayodhya [temple-mosque] issue, but was rejected by the people of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh in last year's assembly elections. It said the only thing the BJP knows is how to inflame passions and stage-manage violence in the name of religion. The Janata Dal and the Janata Party are splitting and joining time and again and, therefore, cannot provide a stable administration. The Congress-I has only one mantra [formula]—stability, social harmony and development.

The 15-page manifesto was released by the chairman of the National Campaign Committee, Mr. Pranab Mukherji, in New Delhi today. Listing the achievements of the Narasimha Rao government, the manifesto said the ground situation in Jammu and Kashmir has vastly improved and steps have been taken to hold elections there in the next few months to restore the democratic process.

On the [job] reservation issue [for backward classes], the Congress-I's approach is not dogmatic in contrast to the National Front governments. Aspirations of different states have to be accomodated and this was evident from its approach to the issue in Tamil Nadu and Karanataka.

The economy is buoyant with foreign exchange reserves crossing 51,000 crore rupees and inflation coming down to 8.3 percent from 17 percent. Export growth is poised to touch 21 percent. Foodgrain stocks are at a record level. Empowering weaker sections, minorities and panchayats [local bodies] and municipalities, national renewal fund to protect labor's interest and expansion of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna [Employment Plan] are among the major achievements.

Replying to questions, Mr. Mukherji said defusing tensions and giving momentum to development process are the hallmark of the party's governments in the past. Asked why the manifesto is silent on the party's stand on the Ayodhya issue, he said the party had aready made its stand clear.

## Iran

### Emami-Kashani Sermon Criticizes U.S. Policies

*LD2810162794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1126 GMT 28 Oct 94*

[Second Tehran Friday prayers sermon delivered by acting Friday prayer imam Ayatollah Emami-Kashani on 28 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] I wish to talk about the postures adopted by the United States and the arrogance, and the slogans they chant; slogans which seem to bring happiness only to themselves, because they seem as though they have hidden their heads under the snow, and that thus no one can see them.

At one time they held talks with the USSR. I remember they said that Marxism had to be harnessed and controlled, and democracy had to be defended. Under the pretext of harnessing Marxism and defending democracy they caused the dismantling of the Soviet Union. Then the former President delivered a speech, saying that it was time for the United States to assume global leadership. In other words, time for the United States to dominate the world. Praise be to God that the Soviet Union was destroyed. God Willing, the United States, too, will be destroyed.

This was its slogan. Using the same slogan it is again trying to interfere everywhere. Look at Haiti, Palestine, Bosnia or other parts of the world. The United States now intends to impose its domination over all parts of the world, in particular over the world of Islam and the Islamic states. This constitutes a fundamental objective forthe United States, which is in no way content with merely a partial domination. The United States says: Your culture should be fused with the United States culture, and the same should happen to your morality and your economy. In short, it wants all aspects of Islamic nations' lives to be dissolved in what is called the Western culture.

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This is what it seeks, and it is this type of domination it is after. It is trying to achieve this through telling lies and chanting slogans. Its lies, however, are apparent to everyone. But it remains insolent. This is really amazing.

How insolent one must be to come forward and strengthen the regime occupying Jerusalem and to further that regime's interests step by step, and subsequently create that group [as heard] and pit it against the people of Palestine, and then call the whole process a process of peace and freedom. On the one hand with Jordan and on the other hand with a group that was their lackey from the outset.

The world arrogance has created this situation and is establishing its hegemony, and this is how it wants Israel [as heard], the Zionist regime occupying Al-Quds. Now those who have come from the United States and Europe to Palestine are Palestinian citizens, while Muslim Palestinians in Gaza and Jericho, a very small part of Palestine, are in prison. It says: I am happy that they are uprooted and destroyed. And it calls itself human. This is the problem that we understand from the news. They [as heard] have not yet signed the so-called peace agreement with Jordan and Palestine, and they open the markets to them. They open the air spaces of this country and that country. They want to give the economy of the Islamic world to Israel, the occupying regime. And then they transfer troops to the Persian Gulf with such arrogance. The madness, weakness, wretchedness, and nonentity in these Islamic countries have created the prelude for the United States to say it has an excuse to come and offer support and friendship. Don't they know that the United States friendship is its power.

The honorable leader—may his blessing continue—gave several speeches this week in which he dealt in every respect with this reality regarding the U.S. situation, its plans for the Islamic world and its ideas about us. Its ideas about us are incredible. It thinks that if it gathers here, the Iranian nation will be fearful. A nation that showed its power during the eight years of holy defense.; a nation whose slogan is that of Imam Husayn—peace be upon him; a people who in the mourning period for Fatima Zahra raised the black flag and are participating in ceremonies. [passage omitted] Such brave people, such courageous people and such powerful people. It is the power of Islam which made this nation great in the world. It is the power of holy worship that has made this people powerful in the world. It is the strength of Islam, faith, and the light of monotheism which penetrated the arms of our youth, allowing them to stand with clenched fists against the world of arrogance, which they will continue to do.

The global arrogance will carry the wish to pose a threat to the Iranian nation to the grave. I do not know why they do not understand this. Why are they so ignorant? They have not yet understood the people of Iran. They do not understood Islam, God, and what the household of Prophet Mohammad has done for this nation. They do not understand. [passage omitted] The people have God-seeking belief. How can they accept global arrogance hegemony? How can they accept their demands? How can they officially recongnize Israel, the occupying and usurper regime? How can they not shout at it? It is impossible. As was mentioned by our great leader, it is an impossible task for a God-seeking society.

Now they carry out military exercise over the islands—islands whose every inch is like every inch of Iran's territory. No one should interfere. The system of the Islamic Republic and the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic are based on friendship, cooperation, dialogue and guidance with all the Persian Gulf littoral and Islamic states. Similarly, this is the case with any other non-Islamic countries which do not bully, do not oppress, and do not impose its sovereignty.

Of course, Iran is against the Al-Quds occupying regime—it is a thief and criminal. This is the reason. The Islamic system is a strong system, thanks be to God. It can resolve its problems. It can resolve its problems with the Emirate. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs can resolve it. The Islamic system of Iran, which is so powerful in the world and among the world nation, thanks be to God, is able to resolve its problems, and will not allow any foreigner to interfere in Iran's policy. It will not allow it. [chants in support]

Concerning 4 November, the day the cursed regime of the shah massacred our dear students, the day the den of espionage was captured and the Iranian nation openly stood against the United States: Importance was attached to marking that day in the past—this year, as it coincides with Friday it has been changed to Wednesday—God willing, our nation, with fervor, should raise its united voice to the world and say: The United States, for as long as you are hegemonistic we reject you and say to you—death to the United States. [Crowd chants: "Death to the United States"] [passage omitted]

## Commentaries View Clinton's Tour of Middle East

### Purpose of 'Unexpected Trip' Seen

*LD3010123994 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1102 GMT 30 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] In an interview after returning from a Middle East trip yesterday, the U.S. President Bill Clinton praised the courage of the signatories of the Amman-Tel Aviv deal. Also in order to eliminate the present hopelessness and despair, the American president emphasized that the future belongs to the signatories of the peace agreement.

Clinton's praise for the bravery of the signatories and his insistence that there should be hope for the future indicates the deep anxiety among White House leaders for the process of developments in the Middle East. It is

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obvious that a reference to the courage of the signatories means that they have made a deal without sensitivity to the great waves of popular opposition.

We know that the U.S. President, despite many arrangements for his visit to the six Middle East countries, was not able to participate in the general assemblies or organized gatherings and was not even able to show images, however limited, of popular welcome for the recent deals. For this reason and also other reasons of failure in the Middle East countries, the U.S. President, analyzing his trip, was forced to limit himself to speak about the future and the need for hope in the future.

Of course it must be acknowledged that U.S. concern regarding the defeat of the conciliation process with the Zionist regime was clearly evident prior to Clinton's visit to the region. Some believe that the purpose of Clinton's unexpected trip to the Middle East was only to prevent the existing weaknesses—particularly that prior to Clinton's visit and prior to the signing of the Amman-Tel Aviv deal, the United States had increased the its forces in the region.

### Dailies on Expectations of Visit

*LD2310151594 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT 23 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct 23, IRNA—Two morning English-language dailies here Sunday [23 October] commented on the forthcoming visit to the Middle East of the U.S. President Bill Clinton, his visit to Syria in particular, and said that no "meaningful result" was expected from the U.S. President's talks in the region.

The 'IRAN NEWS' referred in its editorial to Clinton visit to Damascus and recommended the Syrian president to be "on his guard during his talks with Clinton if he does not wish the American official to impose on him the prerequisites which they imposed on 'Arafat."

Recalling that Syria was on the American list of countries accused of supporting terrorism and subjected to Washington's economic embargo, the paper noted that the U.S. President's visit to Syria was not a "triumphant phase in the peace process," as it was said by the American officials.

The daily said in conclusion that as long as the Palestinian people were denied the right to self-determination through a democratic election, all agreements drawn up and concluded by the White House are doomed to face defeat.

Meanwhile, the 'KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL' referred in its editorial to the recent remarks of Clinton that he was going to the volatile region to 'stand with my freinds," and recalled that "these friends of Mr. Clinton are not the nations he is planning to visit, but their rulers."

Excluding Syria from the list of the U.S. President's "friends" in the Middle East, the paper noted that the Syrian leadership despite U.S.-Zionist pressures has so far rejected to compromise on the Golan Heighs.

By peace Clinton and his allies meant compromise and subjugation, said the paper noting that real peace was simply not in the making. "For that to happen the U.S. will first have to review its prejudiced ties with the Zionist regime. The present quality of U.S.-Israeli relations makes even thinking of real and lasting Middle East peace impossible," said the daily.

Referring to the fact that just a small group of Americans were aware of the true nature of the Zionist regime and the burden it was imposing on their material and spiritual well-being, the paper hoped in conclusion that the majority of Americans would realize the colossal cost of supporting a usurper state which has spread death and destruction in the region with the full support of U.S. leaders.

### Clinton's Meeting With al-Asad Viewed

*NC2810100394 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 24 Oct 94 p 2*

[Editorial: "Clinton's Visit to Syria Weighs Heavy on al-Asad"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As the clock ticks down to the November 8 U.S. mid-term elections, President Bill Clinton is sparing no efforts in wooing voters for his party's Democratic candidates. As a presidential candidate two years ago, Clinton scoffed at his predecessor, George Bush, for being too preoccupied with international issues at the expense of domestic problems. Ironically, as the current occupant of the White House, Clinton is doing the same and trying his best to prove that he can do better in both.

The military junta of Haiti and the Iraqi regime gave Clinton a last minute chance to prove that his campaign promises which catapulted him to the White House could not have been entirely broken by his resounding failures in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Rwanda and other trouble spots in the world.

This week he is expected in this region to witness a peace signing ceremony between Jordan's King Husayn and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, an event which has been dubbed "a great treason against Islam and the struggle for the liberation of one of the holiest places of world Muslims."

The presence of Clinton in this peace signing ceremony will fuel more anger, not only in Amman, but all around the world where people are aware of the deep rooted plot to deprive the Palestinians of their homeland, a move which began in Madrid in October 1991.

After Amman, the focus will be on one of the frontline leaders who has yet to signal any willingness to declare a so-called peace with his sworn enemy, the Zionist regime.

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The focus of attention now is on Damascus because historians and politicians know quite well that if al-Asad does not shake hands with the Zionist premier, the "peace" which they have fashioned for the Middle East will be fragile and incomplete.

Surely, President al-Asad, in return for possible concessions, cannot and should not betray the 40-year struggle of the Palestinians against the Zionists, a struggle which has caused hundreds of thousands of deaths among them and others who fought for their cause and have left millions of others homeless.

For leaders without backbones, such as King Husayn, such a move comes as no surprise much like his past secret deals with the Zionists and their regime.

May we remind President al-Asad that the U.S. is determined to make Israel a superpower in the region and translate the Zionist dream of ruling from Tigris to the Euphrates [as published] into reality.

The United States also wants to portray Islamic and Arab division through such occasions whereby the worst enemies of Muslims reluctantly shake hands with Muslim Arab rulers as pro-Western televisions would tirelessly show.

President al-Asad should not forget that the Golan Heights was made an integral part of the Zionist regime in 1981 and that South Lebanon is still occupied by the Zionists.

Mr. al-Asad, the ball is in your hands and for you to play. The Muslim Ummah demand that you be firm in your stand and give a decisive "no" to any pressure from President Clinton and the Zionists and just act in accordance with your conscience.

### Jordan-Israel Treaty Said 'Doomed to Fail'

*LD2710142294 Tehran IRNA in English 1350 GMT 27 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct. 27, IRNA—A Persian daily Thursday [27 October] wrote that the agreement between Amman and Tel Aviv was doomed to fail because the Zionist regime is illegal in its essence and thus cannot be guarantor of peace in the Middle East.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI was commenting on the ignominous deal concluded between the Jordanian king and the Zionist prime minister at presence of the American President yesterday.

According to JOMHURI-YE Eslami, three major factors make one realize that the Wednesday deal is by no means a peace treaty between two neighboring countries.

For one thing, what has so far blocked a deal with the Zionist regime was solely the Arab people. The Arab governments have throughout the time been either appeasing to the Zionist regime or indifferent to its barbaric crimes.

Another reason making the peace treaty invalid, is that it lacks the needed popular support. People in various parts of the Arab world have demonstrated their staunch opposition to the deal through their protests, strikes and demonstrations.

Finally, the regime ruling over the occupied Palestine lacks any legality what so ever and thus its signiture on the agreement will not ensure peace in the region.

The Tel Aviv government is an illegal regime which does not fit into the political and cultural conditions of the Middle East, it added.

The Wednesday treaty is doomed to fail because any signature by a regime which in its essence is illegal and imposed cannot be guarantor of peace.

"Therefore, instead of calling the treaty an accord between U.S., Jordan and the Zionist regime, we should call it a treaty between the U.S. democrats, Zionists and their agents in the Middle East," concluded the commentary.

### Regime's Stand on Middle East Peace Assailed

*NC2810114294 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 94*

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] As you know, yesterday, Wednesday 26 October 1994, the Jordanian-Israeli peace accord was signed in the presence of President Clinton on the Jordanian-Israeli border. With the agreement between an Arab country like Jordan and its neighbor Israel, the peace and compromise process in the Middle East advanced yet another step, and with Syria's increasing and more serious readiness to continue talks on its differences with Israel, this process will be further accelerated and will further boost hopes for a solution in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Even if Clinton's visit to Syria yields no important progress toward solving the Syrian-Israeli conflict, it will at least further pave the way for this process and it will be a harbinger of a resolution at the Syrian-Israeli peace talks.

While the progress in the Arab-Israeli peace process is considered a hopeful sign for public opinion and the supporters of peace and compromise, it is bad news for the clerical regime because of its provocative nature. Once the peace-seeking efforts succeed, the opportunities for the regime to foment trouble in the region will be removed and the activities of the proregime groups in Lebanon will be limited.

Moreover, the clerical regime—as a regime which supports unrest and which foments extremist antipeace

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groups—will be further hated by public opinion and by freedom-seekers throughout the world and in the region, and it will be even further isolated.

Of course, it is clear that under no circumstances will the clerical regime abandon its efforts to provoke and interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries, especially the regional countries. Thus, a serious and decisive stand on the regime's irresponsible behavior is an important step toward progress in the peace process and in the establishment and stabilization of peace and tranquility in the region. And this is the duty of all freedom- seekers and all supporters of peace, reconciliation, and security.

### Commentary: Muslims Cannot Accept 'Compromise'

*LD2710203394 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1740 GMT 27 Oct 94*

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] The nations have not accepted and will not accept the tyrannical move which is being perpetrated at the moment in the Middle East. These remarks by the esteemed leader of the revolution [Ayatollah Khamene'i] describe the principled and decisive stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward the Middle East compromise.

The compromise of some Arab governments with the Zionist regime, which has been falsely called peace, is not something that can be accepted by the Islamic Republic, the valiant Iranian nation, or any of the Muslim nations. Although the enemy is trying to portray Iran's principled stance as a wrong stance, yet the political logic and history of the region all attest to the fact that Iran's stance toward the Palestinian issue is based on a strong political logic and has its roots in the divine promises of the glorious Koran.

Palestine is an Arab and Islamic land and the migration of a number of usurping terrorists to that land and the establishment of an illegitimate regime there will not change the facts. So long as the steadfast and struggling Palestinian people, with the support of other Muslim nations of the world, continue with their jihad, the regime usurping Jerusalem [Quds] will not last.

Although at the moment the logic of power and domination is ruling over the Middle East region, and although world arrogance as the supporter of the Zionist regime is trying to cover up this fact through the suppression of freedom of expression and through increasing its pressure on the opposing countries, yet that logic will meet with failure in a not-too-distant future due to the fact that it is based on unjust foundations.

Western countries which in the past, in the course of the Crusades, separated Palestine and all of the eastern Mediterranean from the body of Islam for about 200 years, were unable to continue their occupation, despite the weakness of the Islamic world in those days. They were forced to retreat from the region due to the firm resolve of Muslim nations in changing the status quo. The Muslim people of the region, aware of these historical realities, will not be deceived by the false propaganda of the compromising Arab regimes, and will not accept their justification that the Zionist regime is an undeniable political reality in the Middle East and that they have no other option but to accept it.

Today, the nations of the region together with independent countries, even though they may not be able to liberate the first qiblah [direction of prayer, reference to Jerusalem] of the Muslims—although they are—will act on the basis of their least responsibility and will prevent the usurping regime from being accorded recognition; hoping that the tyrannical equation ruling over the region will change and the logic of justice will prevail over international relations.

### Tehran Sees Casablanca Forum Prospects as 'Bleak'

*NC3110063394 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0445 GMT 31 Oct 94*

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentary Group]

[FBIS Translated Text] A forum on boosting development in the Middle East and North Africa opened in Casablanca yesterday. This forum is one of the several multilateral meetings that are taking place within the framework of the Middle East peace talks.

About 1,000 politicians and businessmen from various parts of the world are attending the forum. Meanwhile, the large number of people in the Zionist delegation—eight ministers and dozens of entrepreneurs—is noteworthy.

Political analysts believe that the extensive investment by the West and the Zionist regime in this forum is because economic cooperation between the Arab countries and the Zionist regime constitutes a major part of the Arab-Israeli compromise.

On the basis of the U.S. plan, compromise in the Middle East will be complete when it passes through three phases. The first phase is the political compromise and a solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The second phase is the removal of the economic walls among regional countries and the merging of their economies in an extensive regional market. And the third phase is prioritizing policies and mobilizing all the regional countries to uproot Islamic fundamentalism. As can be seen in this plan, economic cooperation is considered the middle point that links the preliminary issues and the objectives of Middle East compromise to each other.

These political analysts believe that although in the first phase America largely controls the official political

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actors in the region and that it can thus expand the extent of compromise in the Middle East, in the second phase—that is, in the phase of regional economic cooperation—it will be less successful since in economic cooperation the people are the major actors who determine whether the plan will be successful or not; and because of the people's clear stand vis-a-vis the usurping Zionist regime, the prospects of the successful implementation of the second phase of Middle East compromise are very bleak.

During the disgraceful Camp David compromise 15 years ago, al-Sadat agreed with the Zionist regime to cooperate in the economic arena. However, the Muslim Egyptian people's opposition to this decision has prevented this cooperation from materializing until now. PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat ended his hostilities with the Zionist regime a year ago and started his political cooperation with them. But the Muslim Palestinian people, who reject this move, are continuing their struggle against the Zionist regime.

At any rate, as long as decision-making is limited to official levels, it is possible for the American and Zionist plans to succeed. But when the regional Muslim people become the major actors in the decisionmaking process, because of their logical and uncompromising nature, they will never give in to disgrace and will not betray their countries.

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